

Anti-terrorist law will ban IRA, widen police powers of arrest and detention

The IRA is banned, suspected terrorists can be arrested without warrant and powers of detention will be extended under an anti-terrorism Bill to be rushed through both Houses of Parliament this week. The Government hopes it will receive Royal Assent by Thursday night. In London

nine people were slightly injured by three exploding letter bombs in pillar-boxes. Six men were remanded in custody until Thursday when they appeared at Birmingham charged with the murder of a schoolgirl victim of the bombing in the city last week.

Urgent discussions sought with Dublin Government

By David Wood Political Editor
What the Home Secretary described as draconian powers are being taken in a Bill to be rushed through both Houses this week to prevent and combat terrorism on the British mainland. Mr Jenkins, outlining the contents of the Bill in the Commons yesterday, said the House would not adjourn on Thursday night until it had received Royal Assent.

already in Great Britain on the order of the Home Secretary. Powers for the police to arrest without warrant a person reasonably suspected to be a person "concerned in the commission, preparation, or instigation of acts of terrorism", and also a person, subject to an exclusion order, or a person who has knowingly harboured a terrorist.

United Kingdom Bill instead of a Bill for the protection of the British mainland from the repercussions of events in Northern Ireland. Mr Powell will argue that proscription must apply equally throughout the United Kingdom, and he may be expected to raise the question of the "common travel area" which still applies to the Irish border under the Immigration Act, 1971.

capital punishment for those convicted of planting bombs and causing death. There is no doubt that recent bomb atrocities, in which death and mutilation were meted out to innocent people at random, has drastically shifted Commons opinion about hanging for some offences.

Nine hurt in London pillar box blasts

By Staff Reporters
Nine people were injured by three letter bombs which exploded in three different pillar boxes in London during the rush hour last night. The first was outside the office of the pacifist newspaper, Peace News, in the Caledonian Road, King's Cross. Two people were injured.



The Duke of Edinburgh chatting with Mr David Longthorpe, aged 18, a Birmingham bomb victim, while visiting Birmingham General Hospital yesterday.

Duke sees Birmingham victims

From Arthur Osman Birmingham
The Duke of Edinburgh yesterday visited Birmingham General Hospital and Birmingham Accident Hospital to see victims of last week's bomb explosions.

The timing caused some surprise. It meant a 9 am greeting for the Duke at Birmingham airport and, with the disruption around the Victoria law courts, it added inconvenience for those going about their normal business.

Earlier, at the general hospital, the Duke had said to Miss Sandra Nicholson, aged 25, of Birmingham, whose injured legs were covered by a bed cage, "What have you got under there, canaries?"

The Duke of Edinburgh yesterday visited Birmingham General Hospital and Birmingham Accident Hospital to see victims of last week's bomb explosions.

Six men remanded on bomb-death charge

Mr Guy Brady, chairman of the board, said last night that they were taking "war-time measures" to combat the latest IRA threat of London bombings. Landlords were being advised to check their bars every twenty minutes. They were being advised to report anything suspicious.

Gerrard Hunter, aged 29 unemployed; Noel Richard McKenny, aged 31, millwright's mate; William Power, aged 29, unemployed; and John Walker, aged 39, a crane-driver.

Army orders more troops into north Belfast streets

From Robert Fisk Belfast
After another day of random sectarian shootings in which two men died and two more were injured, the Army last night ordered two battalions of troops on to the streets of north Belfast in an attempt to prevent the assassination squads from travelling through the city.

joint police and military police task force, which patrols mixed streets in Belfast, and which was set up by Mr Whitlaw when he was Secretary of State. Faulkner demand: An all-out drive against the IRA in Ulster and the Republic of Ireland was demanded yesterday by Mr Brian Faulkner, the former Northern Ireland Prime Minister (the Press Association reports).

British publishers 'in US conspiracy'

From Frank Vogl US Economics Correspondent Washington, Nov 25
The United States Department of Justice filed a civil suit against 21 big publishing houses today, charging that they have conspired since 1947 to "illegally divide world markets among themselves".

New operation gives patient two hearts

A new technique of heart transplantation was pioneered in Cape Town yesterday by Professor Christian Barnard, who implanted a second heart in the chest of a man aged 58 without removing the patient's own heart. The condition of the unidentified patient after the five-hour operation at the Grote Schuur Hospital, was reported as satisfactory, with the two hearts beating independently.

3p libel damages for colonel in 'bottom-spanking' case

Lieutenant-Colonel John Brooks yesterday won his "bottom-spanking" libel action against The Sunday People, who had accused him of trapping young girls for sadistic purposes. But the jury of nine men and three women awarded only 3p damages. Each side must pay its own costs, though 10,000 between £12,000 and £15,000. Afterwards Colonel Brooks said he would continue to spank "prerty, willing and tempting" girls. Page 6

Summit agenda 'too detailed'

Mr Roy Hattersley, Foreign Office Minister of State, told EEC foreign ministers in Brussels that the document on inflation, unemployment, regional policy and energy drawn up for next month's summit conference in Paris was too detailed and inhibiting. He proposed that it should be regarded as a background document, thus allowing a genuine discussion at the summit. Page 8

Dr Kissinger in Peking

Shortly after arriving in Peking yesterday, Dr Henry Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, went to the hospital where an "alert" Mr Ghou, the Chinese Prime Minister, is receiving treatment. Page 9

VC10 crew played game of nerves

From Simon Scott Plummer Tunis, Nov 25
The British air crew from the hijacked VC10, released in Tunis today, described the nerve-racking ordeal of trying to stop their excited Arab captors from blowing up the aircraft with all of them in it. They said they had not expected to get out alive.

Day 7 Galapagos: boggle at a booby

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U Thant dies aged 65

New York, Nov 25—U Thant, Secretary General of the United Nations from 1961 to 1971, died today, aged 65. He was announced here. He was succeeded by Dr Kurt Waldheim in January, 1972.

Overseas selling prices

Republic of Ireland: 2.00p
Australia: 2.00p
New Zealand: 2.00p
Canada: 2.00p
USA: 2.00p
Japan: 2.00p
South Africa: 2.00p
India: 2.00p
Pakistan: 2.00p
Bangladesh: 2.00p
Sri Lanka: 2.00p
Ceylon: 2.00p
Malaya: 2.00p
Singapore: 2.00p
Philippines: 2.00p
Thailand: 2.00p
Indonesia: 2.00p
Maldives: 2.00p
Seychelles: 2.00p
Mauritius: 2.00p
Zanzibar: 2.00p
Tanzania: 2.00p
Kenya: 2.00p
Uganda: 2.00p
Rwanda: 2.00p
Burundi: 2.00p
Zambia: 2.00p
Mozambique: 2.00p
Botswana: 2.00p
Namibia: 2.00p
Swaziland: 2.00p
Lesotho: 2.00p
Madagascar: 2.00p
Mali: 2.00p
Niger: 2.00p
Chad: 2.00p
Sudan: 2.00p
Ethiopia: 2.00p
Somalia: 2.00p
DRC: 2.00p
Congo: 2.00p
Zaire: 2.00p
Angola: 2.00p
Mozambique: 2.00p
Zimbabwe: 2.00p
Botswana: 2.00p
Namibia: 2.00p
Swaziland: 2.00p
Lesotho: 2.00p
Madagascar: 2.00p
Mali: 2.00p
Niger: 2.00p
Chad: 2.00p
Sudan: 2.00p
Ethiopia: 2.00p
Somalia: 2.00p
DRC: 2.00p
Congo: 2.00p
Zaire: 2.00p
Angola: 2.00p

Sinn Fein and other reactions	2
Catholic brothers' deaths	3
Death penalty debate	3
Urged	3
Parliamentary report	12
Bernard Levin	16

HOME NEWS

Provisional Sinn Fein pours scorn on banning of IRA and expects the move to fail

From Robert Fisk Belfast

The Provisional Sinn Fein movement in the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland responded with predictable scorn yesterday to Mr Jenkins's banning of the IRA. Mrs Maire Drumm, vice-president of the organization, said he had announced only what was expected of him. "Until he takes some action, we don't know how drastic this is going to be, but it was the expected line," she said.

Other, less official, republican sympathizers put it more bluntly. "The Irish Republican Army is illegal in both parts of Ireland," one said. "But proscription has never harmed them here."

Protestant organizations in Belfast were concerned to discover whether any of the restrictions would apply to them. Several Ulster Defence Association men have been imprisoned in Britain for possession of weapons and, since the Protestant private army maintains branches in London, Liverpool, Bristol and Glasgow, they were trying last night to discover whether their own activities would come under surveillance on the mainland.

Ironically, the most recent trend in Northern Ireland has been to lift proscriptions from previously banned organizations. Earlier this year, for example, Mr Rees, the Northern Ireland Secretary of State, decided to legalize the Provisional Sinn Fein movement and the Protestant Ulster Volunteer Force. The Government hoped that that would encourage both organizations to take part in elections and renounce support for violence. The UVF contested the general election in one Belfast constituency, but Sinn Fein refused. Mrs Drumm suggested last night that Mr Jenkins was acting in accordance with policies directly opposed to those of Mr Rees.

The Belfast police yesterday were unable to give the number of IRA men who have been convicted of membership in the

province, although records in the republic show that 167 convictions have been obtained there for IRA membership since emergency legislation was passed in May, 1972. The Irish authorities, like their opposite numbers in the North, regard the proscription of the IRA as useful, but scarcely essential in the war against terrorism.

In the North, many of those convicted of IRA membership were in fact imprisoned for more serious offences while in the Irish Republic, where men convicted of IRA membership receive six-month sentences similar to those which will be given in Britain. More than 80 of the 167 convictions since May, 1972, were accompanied by sentences for crimes such as possession of explosives.

The most serious problem in securing such convictions in Britain is likely to be the same as that in Northern Ireland: that members of illegal organizations do not carry membership cards.

Provisional IRA sympathizers have always feared that their members may be deported from Britain, although about two years ago an official IRA sympathizer was refused permission to land in Britain at Manchester and the authorities were instructed to ensure that he left the United Kingdom. He was promptly put on an aircraft to Belfast which, of course, is part of the United Kingdom.

While Provisional IRA marches will no longer be allowed in Britain, the authorities in Belfast have no doubt that they will continue in that city. It would be virtually impossible for the Army or police to prevent republican demonstrations, complete with banners and speakers supporting the IRA, in the middle of exclusively Roman Catholic districts where thousands of people, though they may not tacitly support the Provisionals, would violently oppose any interference by the authorities.

The principal target of the main organization likely to be affected by the new measures

is the Provisional Sinn Fein, political wing of the Provisional IRA. It has about 15,000 members in 17 branches throughout Britain, and though officials say it is expanding they refuse to give details (the Press Association reports).

The main centres are in London, Birmingham, Coventry, Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool.

Its leader is Mr Brendan Magill, aged 41, a married man with five children, who has two shops selling Irish books and records in Ebury and Shepherds Bush, London. He is the national organizer in Britain.

The president is Rory O'Brady (Ruairi O'Bradaigh), a former technical school teacher who lives in Co Roscommon, in the Irish Republic.

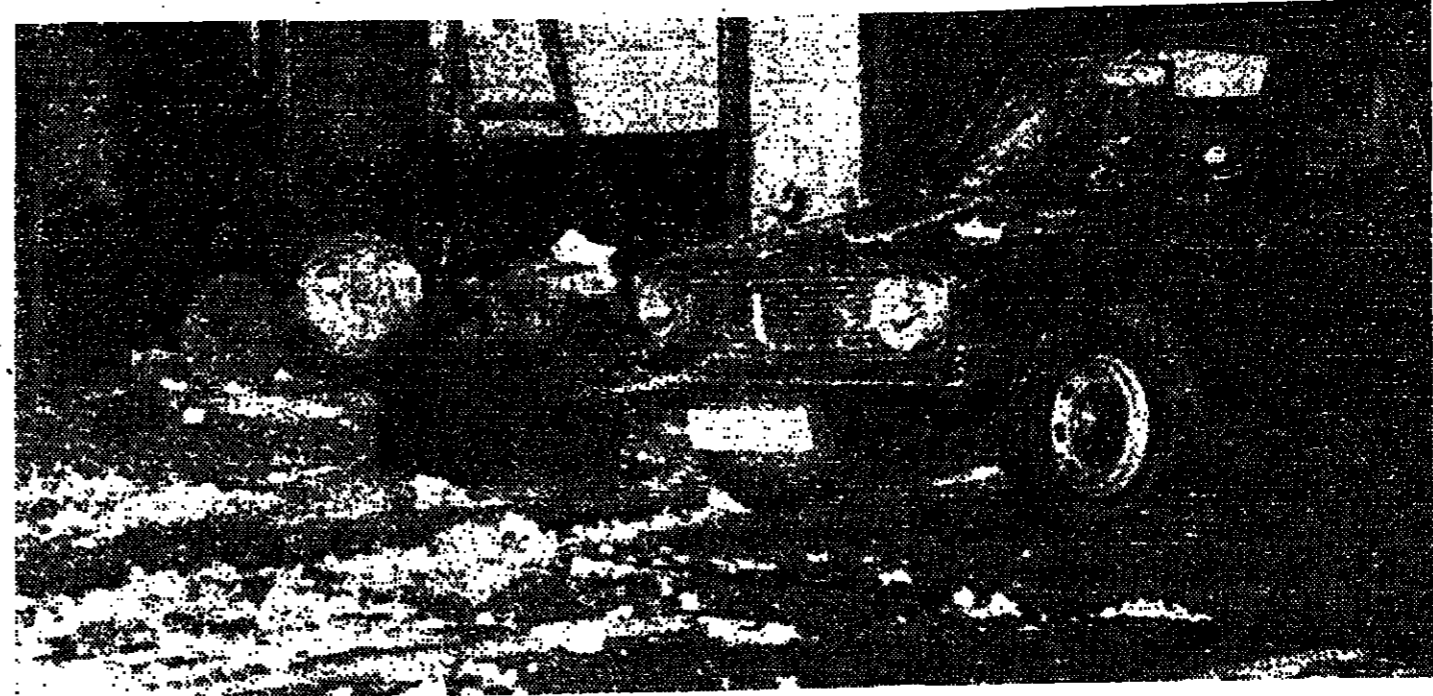
Mr Magill and Mr George Lynch, the party's regional organizer in the Midlands, both went to Ireland for the funeral of James McDade, the IRA bomber who blew himself up in Coventry on November 14. They have not yet returned to England.

The Provisional Sinn Fein has always emphasized its separateness from the Provisional IRA, and its leaders have said there is no connection between the two. While technically that may be true, their aims are identical: the achievement of an all-Ireland socialist republic.

Liberty infringed: A spokesman for Clann na h'Eireann, a political section of the republican movement, said the Government's plans were a definite infringement of civil liberties. The claim was solely a political organization and, as such, hoped the new legislation would not affect it. But the plans were a definite infringement on civil liberties which must be opposed.

They were open to the widest interpretation possible, the spokesman said.

At its annual meeting in Leeds at the weekend the claim called for the support of British trade unions to resist the imposition of what it called police state regulations.



A pillar-box bombed yesterday outside "Peace News" in Caledonian Road.

Police accept need for IRA ban

Continued from page 1

Mr Jenkins in his measures there were other pressures than those for the return of hanging.

Within the Shadow Cabinet later this week consideration will be given to the argument broached by Mr Mark Carlisle, a former Home Office Minister, that the Bill should be extended to cover acts of terrorism not related to Northern Ireland affairs; and the probability is that Sir Keith Joseph, shadow Home Secretary, will move an amendment to that effect, without pressing it to a decision.

Another argument, finding a home on the Labour side, is that the rigours of the Bill should not be expressly limited to the IRA. What about Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA; and what about Protestant terrorists in Northern Ireland?

Mr Jenkins took the force out of the argument when he replied that his counter-terrorist measures had to be limited to activities related to Northern Ireland because the Bill had been brought in at short notice and it would complicate the issues and militate against urgency if he carried it wider.

Mr Jenkins's conversion to the

urgent necessity of proscription to combat terrorism is based on police advice. Earlier, he accepted the police argument that rather than helped by banning the IRA and its offshoots, or any newly devised form it might take.

But, as he told the Commons: "I have discussed the matter further with my police advisers, and they now accept that proscription forms a necessary part of the framework of measures which we are putting into effect."

Although the Bill will at first name only the IRA, the Home Secretary will be empowered with the flexibility to extend the provisions to other named organizations as need occurs.

Mr Jenkins has already announced the penalties for the offences that are being created by the Bill. Under the proscription provisions the maximum penalty will be six months' imprisonment or a £400 fine, or both, on summary conviction, and five years' imprisonment or an unlimited fine, or both, on conviction on indictment.

On dress (including armbands) or display, summary

conviction will carry a penalty of three months' imprisonment or a £200 fine, or both. As the Home Secretary said: "It will be an offence to wear clothing or armbands which are plainly IRA insignia but which fall short of the requirements for a successful prosecution under the provisions of the Public Order Act, 1936, which prohibits the wearing of political uniforms." It will also be an offence to carry banners in support of the IRA.

The same penalties as those for membership of a proscribed organization will apply to a person who fails to comply with an exclusion order or a person who assists knowingly somebody against whom an exclusion order has been made.

In spite of some Westminster pressure on both sides of the Commons Mr Jenkins has rejected the proposal for the reintroduction of identity cards. He believes that the documents could be easily forged and that the demand made on resources in manpower and money would be high in proportion to the achievable results. Nevertheless, he promised that he would keep the proposal in mind.

BBC 'will have to take account of ban'

The BBC would have to take account of the ban on the IRA when considering interviews, Sir Charles Curran, the director-general, said yesterday.

"Since 1971 no interview with a member of the IRA has been allowed without my express permission," he said in a statement. No interviews were planned with members of the IRA.

A Staff Reporter writes: Careful consideration is given by the broadcasting authorities to any news material that mentions the activities of the Provisional IRA, or contains interviews with its leaders.

In the case of independent television, discussion takes place between the company concerned and the Independent Broadcasting Authority, as happened in the case of Mr David O'Connell, the IRA chief of staff, interviewed on London Weekend's Weekend World last Sunday week.

In that case the authority decided that the programme was dealing with aspects of Northern Ireland, including an attempt to inform the public on the current attitudes of the IRA leadership, and the IBA gave permission to broadcast the interview. Broadcasters have an obligation to inform, as have those employed in other media.

In a Commons written reply yesterday, Mr Silkin, the Attorney General, said he had read the transcript of the interview with Mr O'Connell, who threatened to intensify the IRA campaign in Britain. In his opinion no criminal offence was committed by those responsible for the transmission of the programme.

Eire plans new legislation against terrorists

The Government of the Irish Republic is preparing new anti-terrorist legislation, Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien, Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, said yesterday that he expected an announcement soon. He said that such legislation had been contemplated for some time. There has been speculation that the Government was planning a law under which persons accused of certain offences in Britain could be tried in an Irish court.

Man obtained 4,500 pills from doctor

A doctor who prescribed more than 4,500 tablets in three months to the same man was yesterday ordered to be struck off.

The man had collected 13 different prescriptions under one name, and another 13 under different names, the Disciplinary Committee of the General Medical Council was told.

Dr Michael Flavin, aged 64, registered at Parkside Road, Reading, Berkshire, had given up his practice because of ill health and was "in the twilight of his life", the committee was told.

He was charged with issuing prescriptions for drugs of addiction or dependence otherwise than in the course of bona-fide treatment.

The committee found him guilty of serious professional misconduct and ordered his name to be erased from the register. It directed suspension of his registration forthwith.

Mr David Tudor Price, solicitor for the council, said Dr Flavin had prescribed the tablets between September 7 and December 28, 1973. Mr John Crowley, for the defence, said Dr Flavin had been unwell for a long period and had resigned. For five years he had had to seek help from junior partners and locums.

After one locum had left, a man variously known as Kaundra or Kamara had come to the doctor's surgery asking for repeat prescriptions, saying the locum had started the treatment. The man began saying he was collecting prescriptions for other people as well. Dr Flavin gave them to him.

Mr Crowley admitted that it was serious to issue prescriptions without knowing or intending the people concerned. The doctor was not as diligent as he might have been said. The doctor was not present yesterday and sent a medical

Mr Mason to reveal defence cuts next week

By Henry Stanhope

Defence Correspondent The Government's awaited statement on the defence review will be made by Mr Mason, Secretary of State for defence, in the House of Commons next Tuesday.

It will detail most if not all the cuts in defence which Government proposes to announce after consultations with Britain's allies during the two or three months.

Chiefs of staff of the Services are to be briefed by the Cabinet's final decision the Ministry of Defence.

The statement will reveal intention to end the last vestige of the British presence in Singapore, cut into Britain's commitments in the East Atlantic and northern Norway and reduce the force in Cyprus.

The RAF will lose its Britannia transport aircraft some VC10s. The Royal Navy is expected to lose its maverick carriers and the Marines will probably be reduced to a small force. British contribution to Nato strength in central Europe will be virtually intact, but all Services will suffer equally in the cuts.

All the cuts will be planned over a period and the Government is expecting at least some criticism from its allies as from its right wing review will certainly provide for the devastation of armed forces that has feared in some quarters, four Polaris submarines, four British strategic nuclear deterrent, will be retained. The statement is also expected to announce the Cabinet's intention to run down a list of facilities at Simonstown, Africa.

Free booklet of prices and legal rights

By a Staff Reporter

A comprehensive shop guide, outlining in clear simple terms the legal rights of consumers, where to go for advice, and tips on credit cards, is published today by the Office of Fair Trading. Copies of the 26-page booklet Fair Deal, can be obtained free of charge from local authority trading standards and consumer protection departments. Citizens Advice Centres, Citizens Advice Bureaux, and a foreword to the Mr John Methven, Director of Fair Trading, that it was produced in response to complaints by many people that they had to look through many different books and leaflets for consumer information.

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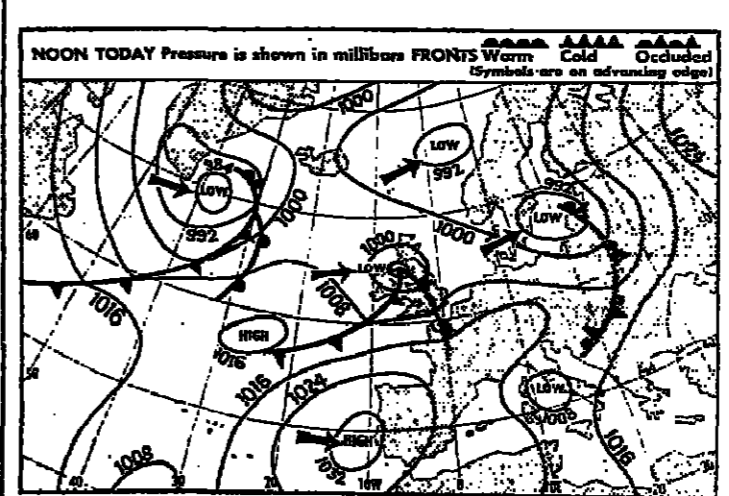
When the salesman meets important new buyers who are unknown to him, he knows ECGD will check their credit status.

He can go out more aggressively for orders, knowing that his company is protected against non-payment. Most of the unforeseeable reasons for non-payment—buyer default or bankruptcy, currency or political problems in the market—are 90-95% covered by the company's ECGD insurance.

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Weather forecast and recordings



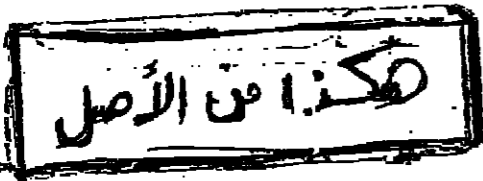
Today Sun rises 7:36 am, Moon sets 3:53 am. Full Moon: November 29. High water: London Bridge, 10.59 am, 6.1m (20.0ft); 11.33 pm, 6.4m (21.0ft). Avonmouth, 4.15 am, 10.5m (35.8ft); 4.44 pm, 11.3m (37.0ft). Dover, 8.20 am, 5.8m (19.0ft); 8.55 pm, 5.9m (19.2ft). Hull, 2.59 am, 6.2m (20.5ft); 3.46 pm, 6.4m (21.0ft). Liverpool, 8.37 am, 7.4m (24.3ft); 3.51 pm, 7.7m (25.2ft).



clear intervals later; wind fresh, backing N; max temp (43°F). Aberdeen, Moray Firth, Highlands, Gairloch, Argyll, Scotland: mainly dry, sunny with wind variable light, max E max temp 5 (43°F). Orkney, Shetland: sunny intervals, a few showers; wind fresh, backing E later; max temp 5°C (41°F). Outlook for tomorrow and Tuesday: Changeable, showers or periods of rain, sunny intervals near or a little below average.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: e, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; n, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

Algiers	18	23	Colombia	17	21	L. Palmas	19	26	New York	13	18
Amsterdam	17	21	Copenhagen	16	21	London	16	21	Nice	16	21
Antwerp	17	21	Dublin	16	21	Lucerne	16	21	Osaka	16	21
Birmingham	17	21	Edinburgh	16	21	Madrid	17	22	Paris	16	21
Boston	17	21	Geneva	16	21	Moscow	16	21	Rome	16	21
Breast	17	21	Helsinki	16	21	Norway	16	21	St. Petersburg	16	21
Buenos Aires	17	21	London	16	21	Prague	16	21	Tokyo	16	21
Cardiff	17	21	Manchester	16	21	Stockholm	16	21	Washington	16	21
			Nottingham	16	21	Sydney	16	21			
			Sheffield	16	21						
			Southampton	16	21						
			Trondheim	16	21						
			Warsaw	16	21						
			Zurich	16	21						



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HOME NEWS

Irish brothers from Donegal die together in Birmingham pub blast

Irish brothers, Eugene Desmond Reilly, were in Birmingham together when the week's Birmingham bomb attack at first their thought one had been John Reilly, summoned to jury with other parents of the dead, said yesterday.

"We thought Eugene was a victim but then his brother, who was with him, was away from him. When I saw the police thought it was Eugene."

It was Desmond's Thursday night Desmond had returned to Birmingham. Meeting his sister in the house he asked where his brother was, and went off to find him.

family, Irish Roman Catholics, came to Britain more than 10 years ago from Donegal. Brothers were among the victims to be named. The other two were Anthony Davis, aged 20, Malvern House, Rupert Nechols, Birmingham; and Robert Marsh, aged 20, of Malvern House.

Birmingham city coroner, George Billington, is to open an inquest on the 19 victims on Friday.

More than 30 people attended a memorial service in the Hall of Memory in Birmingham yesterday to hear the organization's secretary, Mr. Webster, call for "total

war" on the IRA. He demanded the reinstitution of the death penalty and the treatment of the Irish in Britain as aliens.

British Airways flights to Belfast and Dublin were resumed yesterday from all but two British airports. They were suspended at the weekend after airport workers "blacked" flights to the republic and Ulster in protest at the Birmingham bomb outrage. The two exceptions were Birmingham and Newcastle. More than 20 flights were cancelled.

Porters and baggage staff at Liverpool airport, who staged a 48-hour strike in protest, went back to work yesterday.

The Midland regional council of the TUC yesterday condemned the "bestial acts of terrorism" in Birmingham. The bombing on Thursday was "a senseless and brutal attack", Mr. Brian Mathers, an Ulsterman, who is chairman of the council, said.

"We understand the feelings of some trade unionists who wanted to demonstrate their abhorrence by organizing protest work stoppages. But we do not consider this will assist in resolving the problem." He was speaking after informal weekend talks with leaders of affiliated unions in the area representing more than a million Midlands workers.

Mr. Mathers, who left Belfast for Birmingham in 1947, said the council was advising members to leave the issue to be

dealt with by the processes of law. "In the meantime, we hope that trade unionists will make a positive contribution by responding to the appeal fund to assist the families of the dead."

British Leyland yesterday reported that production was back to normal at the six factories in the Birmingham area where 4,000 men walked out last Friday to demonstrate against the bombings. The walk-outs followed a number of fights involving Irish workmen.

The company said: "We were prepared for more trouble today and had tightened up security and supervision. In fact, it seems that, having made their feelings known, the men are now working better than ever to make up for lost time."

Some of those taking part in Friday's walkout said they would refuse to work with known republican sympathizers. But extensive inquiries yesterday traced only one case at British Leyland, Longbridge, where an employee of Irish extraction had been told to stay at home on full pay until further notice to avoid trouble with his workmates. The company would not confirm this.

A shop steward at Longbridge said: "There is a move in the plant to arrange a collection for the victims of the bombing. This could take several forms but one suggestion is that we should give half a day's wages."

Killers take nine lives in Ulster in four days

From A Staff Reporter Belfast

The Royal Ulster Constabulary yesterday appealed to both communities in the province for help in tracing killers who have taken nine lives in the past four days.

Mr. James Flanagan, the chief constable, said the figure was an appalling blight on the population.

Two men died and two others were wounded yesterday. The second killing of the day occurred when a gunman, believed to be in a car, sprayed pedestrians on a pavement near the Holy Cross Catholic church in upper Crumlin Road, Belfast, fatally wounding a man. A few minutes earlier another man was wounded on a pavement a mile away, possibly by the same gunman.

The most carefully planned attack during the day came at about 8 am when two post office engineers, both Protestants, were shot from a car as they walked to work along Rutilia Street in the Protestant Woodvale district of Belfast. One of them, Mr. James Murock, a married man with a brown-up family, died from bullet wounds in the head, neck and chest. His colleague was seriously wounded.

Police officers later found 23 spent bullets in the vicinity, one of which had penetrated the wall of a house and lodged in the inner staircase.

Extremist nastiness, page 16



Mr. Jenkins, Home Secretary, at 10 Downing Street yesterday morning before he announced his emergency measures.

Harrow fire not work of terrorist, police say

By Martin Euckerby

Police officers investigating the fire that destroyed part of Grove House at Harrow School, London, early yesterday, have excluded any possibility of a terrorist attack. It was apparently caused by a petrol bomb thrown through the window of a boy's room on the top floor of the three-storey building.

The police yesterday interviewed all 62 boys in the house when the fire started. They said three bottles of petrol were thrown into the room occupied by Simon Rhodes, aged 17.

The person responsible appeared to have climbed a fire escape behind the building, moved along the top of the house and tossed the device through the end window.

Last month a bomb damaged a cottage in the grounds of the school.

All the boys and Mr. Geoffrey Treasure, the housemaster, his wife and daughters, escaped, most of them in pyjamas and dressing gowns. But the upper part of the front section of the house, including the housemaster's family accommodation, and 12 of the boys' rooms were burnt out.

Mr. Treasure said yesterday that Simon Rhodes, in his own room on the second floor, had told him that he had been awakened by a missile thrown through his window.

He ran out shouting "fire" and set off the fire alarm in the passage.

They had held a bomb practice after the previous bomb, and had held regular fire practices. If they had not done so, he believed, someone might have been killed.

"The police did say the boys behaved well; they were very disciplined." Most of the boys, aged from 13 to 18, will be able to remain at Grove House. The others will join other houses at the school.

Among the pupils in Grove House are Lord Tyrone, and David Macmillan, son of Mr. Maurice Macmillan and grand-son of Mr. Harold Macmillan.

There have been suggestions that the house is known as "Irish house" because of the number of Irish boys, but Mr. Treasure said he had not heard the name and that there were only one or two "Anglo-Irish" boys there.

About a hundred firemen took more than an hour to get the blaze under control.

Scotland Yard said last night that a boy was being interviewed.

Public urged to try cameras beat bombers

People should carry cameras at the bombers, Mr. Jenkins, Home Secretary, has told by a former military man, Mr. Peter de St. Paer, in a speech at the House of Commons yesterday.

He said that if people photographed anything they thought was suspicious they should produce vital evidence.

The police appealed for photographs after the bombing at the Tower of London in July. On Sunday they asked people to stay on their feet and report any suspicious activities, however trivial.

Mr. de St. Paer said: "Photographs would be better than tips, which are often conflicting. They also help to dissuade people from planning bombs. I think it would do some good for morale."

MPs press for death penalty debate

By Hugh Noyes Parliamentary Correspondent Westminster

Pressure on the Government to allow MPs another opportunity to vote on the issue of restoring the death penalty for terrorism was building up in the Commons yesterday. As Mr. Jenkins, the Home Secretary, made his statement on his proposals for increased powers to check terrorism, it was clear that many MPs were moving with the mood of their constituents, and that there would be much support on both sides of the House for any motion to bring back capital punishment for crimes similar to the Birmingham outrage.

Encouraged by the Home Secretary's change of mind represented by his decision to ban the IRA, MPs in favour of the death penalty persuaded him to say that he had no doubt that the matter "will have to be

and should be debated. Later, Mr. Short, leader of the House and chiefly responsible for arranging business in the Commons, agreed that there would have to be a debate in government time, if there was not a suitable opportunity in private members' time.

If a debate was the desire of the House, Mr. Short said, he would try to find the time. He felt, however, as did Mr. Jenkins, that MPs would wish the events of the past week to recede a little before the death penalty was debated.

Mr. Jenkins had earlier indicated that if there was to be a restoration it should come about as the result of a clear decision of the Commons followed by new legislation. The death penalty should not be returned through the back door by means of the "archaic and obscure law of treason."

Replying to Mrs. Jill Knight, Conservative MP for Birmingham, Edgbaston, who asked him to include the death penalty in the new Prevention of Terrorism Bill, Mr. Jenkins said he would be foolish to pretend that there was not a demand in the country that persons guilty of terrorism should face capital punishment.

But although there were divided views on both sides of the House on the matter, he did not think MPs would feel it was right to deal with a matter

Mr. Percy Grieve, Conservative MP for Solihull, said opinion was strongly in favour of the death penalty for terrorism. Mr. Jenkins agreed that there would have to be a debate. But while it should not be unduly postponed, he felt that the debate should not take place in the immediate aftermath of an incident, however dreadful.

Parliamentary report, page 12 Bernard Levin, page 16

Accused man denies fear of Provisionals

An Irishman accused of murder shouted "It's a lie" when the prosecution in a London court put forward his fear of the Provisional IRA as a possible motive.

John Timothy Branney, aged 21, a native of Belfast, and an Irish boy, aged 16, were jointly charged at Old Street Magistrates Court with murdering Mr. Charles Dorman, an Irishman, outside a west London public house.

Mr. Richard Thomas, for the prosecution, said at one stage Mr. Branney told the police that Mr. Dorman had been a Provisional member in Ireland and that he (Mr. Branney) came to England because he was afraid of him.

Mr. Thomas said that in an argument in a public house in Shepherd's Bush Mr. Dorman was stabbed in the chest. He ran down the road, pursued by the two defendants and died soon afterwards.

When arrested Mr. Branney said they were drunk and the boy pulled out his knife, Mr. Thomas said. Mr. Branney said he told him not to be foolish and he grabbed it, but Mr. Dorman fell on it.

The boy told the police that Mr. Branney asked for his knife and then "poked Charlie in the chest with it".

The defendants were committed in custody for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Bridget Dugdale court told of burning fuse on flight

Confusion reigned in a hijacked helicopter when someone lit the fuse to a milk churn packed with explosives, the pilot said yesterday. First the fuse was lit, then ripped out, and then replaced while the helicopter circled the town of Strabane in Ulster.

Captain John Hobday, the pilot, was giving evidence at the trial in Dublin of Bridget Rose Dugdale, aged 34, a former London University lecturer.

She appeared with Eamonn McNulty, aged 18, of Fountain Street, Strabane, and Patrick Anthony Treacy, aged 20, of Townsend Street, also Strabane, all charged on eight counts connected with the hijacking of the helicopter near Ards, co. Donegal, on January 24.

The charges were brought under the Irish Republic's air navigation, explosives, and firearms Act. Two counts allege illegal possession and control of explosives, three illegal possession and control of firearms, two illegal seizure and control of an aircraft and one taking a car without the owner's consent while possessing a firearm.

All three defendants refused to plead and pleas of not guilty were entered on their behalf by the court.

The court had heard earlier how three men had hijacked the helicopter, forcing the pilot at gunpoint to fly to Ards Abbey. There four milk churns were taken on board. Two were thrown out shortly afterwards,

but the pilot was forced to fly over Strabane, where two were dropped on an RUC station.

Captain Hobday said there was much confusion when one of the men lit a fuse attached to a milk churn.

The man with the gun told him to put it out, and he did so by ripping the fuse out of the churn. The fuse was replaced while the helicopter flew in a circuit above the town.

The armed man said they were being fired on. Captain Hobday said they man seemed to him to have no escape plan but merely told him to fly back to the Irish Republic.

Cross-examined by Miss Dugdale, Captain Hobday said he was 35 and had been too young to join the RAF in the Second World War.

Miss Dugdale asked: "Did the German Army occupy Britain?"

Captain Hobday replied: "The attempted to, but did not succeed."

Miss Dugdale: "Are you aware that the British Army have occupied a part of the country?"

Captain Hobday: "That is a matter of opinion."

The court was told that impression found on an Ordnance Survey map in the hijacked helicopter, was that of Miss Dugdale. The handwriting on a message to the pilot had also been shown to be hers.

The hearing was adjourned until today.

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HOME NEWS

'I can't face my future'

'I'm hungry, I live in a slum, have no hope of being properly educated and little chance of growing up to enjoy a decent life. Please help me!'

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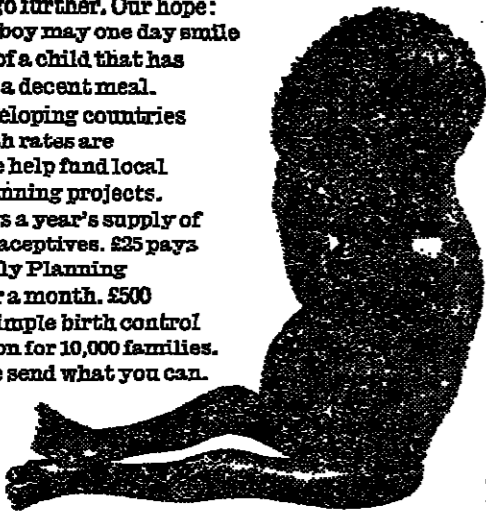
At Population Countdown we're trying to help in a unique and lasting way.

We're sponsored by the Family Planning Association and we're raising funds to help people understand the need to limit the size of their families.

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In developing countries where birth rates are highest we help fund local family planning projects. \$5 buys a year's supply of oral contraceptives. \$25 pays for a Family Planning worker for a month. \$500 provides simple birth control information for 10,000 families.

Please send what you can.



Population Countdown form with fields for name, address, and donation amount. Includes a 'SAY WHEN' section for reporting on population statistics.

Mr Crosland unlikely to have much cheer for ratepayers today

By Christopher Warman Local Government Correspondent

Local government leaders will hear today from Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, how much money the Government is to provide local authorities within its rate support grant for 1975-76.

Ratepayers should know soon afterwards whether the fearful estimates of rate increases of up to 100 per cent voiced by some authorities will become reality.

The local authority associations have made their position clear; that unless they receive a huge increase in grant only two options will be open: large rate increases or a cut in services.

During the negotiations between government and local government, Mr Derek Pickering, chairman of the local government finance committee of the Association of County Councils, estimated that next year local authorities would need an extra £1,500m from the Government to maintain present services and provide for modest growth.

It would be an optimist who believed that Mr Crosland would hand over nearly £5,000m, which it would be if it included that extra £1,500m. He wrote to the county councils association last month: 'We will not be able to shield the ratepayers entirely from the effects of inflation and the increasing costs of local government services; nor will we be able to contemplate rates of improvement in services rising as rapidly as they have done in the recent past.'

Last year the Government made a grant of £3,431m, representing 60.5 per cent of the total £5,671m estimated local government expenditure. 'Relevant' expenditure is in broad terms local government spending that is not subject to

specific grants or is not self-financing.

Local authorities complained at the time, and have pointed out since, that Mr Rippon, then Secretary of State, allowed only for an inflation of 9 per cent, which has left them in severe financial difficulties because the rate has continued to exceed that.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities asks for a 'sensible settlement'. 'We want a realistic settlement that does not ignore that costs are up by 20 per cent', Mr Robin McCall, the secretary, said.

Local authority associations feel that the cut in public expenditure this year, plus the Conservative government's determination not to raise inflation, created a big burden. Where local authorities failed to estimate for 20 per cent inflation they have next year to make up for that before taking into account next year's inflation or any proportion for growth.

Of options put before the local authorities by the Government for consideration, it seems clear that Mr Crosland's decision will be between one allowing for no growth or a small growth. Local authorities will be worried if it is the former, which allows for services based on this year plus inescapable commitments.

It would mean that no new projects, however desirable or necessary, could be entertained. They estimate that to take care of inflation this year, they need another £900-£1,000m, a huge sum compared with last year's £225m.

Mr Crosland gave a chilling indication of the Government's position when he told the Commons last week: 'I cannot promise either local authorities or ratepayers an easy time next year. I have no doubt that I shall be a highly unpopular man next spring.'

Growers fear gift tax will destroy woods

By a Staff Reporter

As Britain's backwoodsmen prepare for the annual uprooting of three million Christmas trees this weekend, timber industry representatives say the Chancellor's refusal to make concessions over the proposed gift tax will ensure the destruction of private woodlands.

'The mature hardwood trees of England will be a thing of the past in 30 to 40 years', Mr Brian Howell, a council member of the Timber Growers' Association, said yesterday. 'Our industry has been dealt a sledgehammer blow.'

The growers' believe that the Government, in its anxiety to break up concentrations of inherited wealth by taxation, has ignored the slow growth of trees. They are an asset that cannot be realized until 50 to 150 years after planting, capital transfer tax will now be charged on a sliding scale, up to three-quarters, on each change of ownership.

Because of uncertainty, 20,000 acres fewer would be planted this winter, Mr Howell said. Next year, if the tax went through, 40,000 acres would probably not be planted, depriving the country of £240m of domestic timber over the next 60 years. One effect would be to make Christmas trees scarcer and dearer. This year's are expected to sell at 15p to 25p a foot retail.

Domestic timber provides only about 8 per cent of British consumption, and half the planting is carried out by the state-owned Forestry Commission.

The timber growers say: 'No other crop is taxed until it is harvested. To meet tax liabilities woodlands will have to be overcut. There will be no more private tree planting; the dedication scheme will die; and as existing woodlands are felled to meet tax liabilities the British public will lose the amenity value.'

Group fears pro-Europeans have big advantage and says Britain will be flooded with propaganda

By a Staff Reporter

The Get Britain Out movement yesterday began its campaign against the powerful forces which it fears are to be brought to bear to sway British into staying in the European Economic Community.

The non-party campaign, formed at the beginning of this year, is certain that within the next 10 months the electorate will vote in a referendum to decide the issue.

Mr Christopher Frere-Smith, the chairman of the campaign, said: 'This vote will be of paramount importance because it will decide whether Britain is to be an independent, self-governing nation, or to become part of a new Western European nation with one currency and one government for that is the aim of the European Community, with full integration, both political and economic, by 1980.'

The campaign is concerned because of the enormous disparity of resources between those in favour of EEC and those against. Mr Frere-Smith said he believed that not only rich individuals were on the side of the Community, but also nearly every national newspaper, the BBC and the media.

The campaign will divide Britain into regions and set up

Community's information office is opening up in Cardiff and in Edinburgh for the express purpose of flooding the country with propaganda financed from Brussels', Mr Frere-Smith said.

Leading Eurocrats like Sir Christopher Soames and Mr George Thomson have plans to spend more time in the United Kingdom than they spend on the Continent, interfering in matters which concern the domestic politics of this country.

The Get Britain Out referendum campaign asks that, in fairness, the referendum Bill, which will have to go through Parliament before the vote can be held, should provide for public financing of the campaign, giving each side equal access to the government printing press, in general elections, and control of expenditure by the two campaigns. Provision should also be made to ensure that both the BBC and the IBA maintain a fair balance both in time and presentation of programmes concerning the referendum.

Mr Frere-Smith said that he hoped the press would give fair presentation to both sides of the argument.

The campaign will divide Britain into regions and set up

area committees, with the aim of establishing in every parliamentary constituency.

Mr Clive Jenkins, secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Professional Staffs and a member of the campaign's steering committee, said the movement would be a strength behind the scenes. It was vital that should remain a peaceful and free-trading and trade unions, which they did in the various British institutions, support the campaign.

His sentiments were expressed by Mr Richard Body, Conservative MP for Hollar, Boston, who is a vice-president of the campaign's steering committee, but had become chary of the campaign.

They realize that more difficult to export, he said. 'But it is export capital, and this capital will eventually drain on our plant, and employment to this would be disastrous to Mr Body.'

Lord Wigg, a member executive committee, the British people must their own destiny.

QC tells of 'horrifying' murder by boy aged 16

The brutality and viciousness shown by a boy of 16 in killing an old man was quite horrifying, Mr David QC, the prosecution, told Leeds Crown Court yesterday.

'This boy beat up, strangled and stabbed a 78-year-old man while that man was lying in bed because he would not give him money or money's worth', Mr Savill said.

The boy has pleaded not guilty to the murder of Mr Herbert Holroyd, of Ringwood Road, Bradford.

Mr Savill said Mr Holroyd lived alone in an old people's home. He never locked his door, even though it had two locks.

Last April he deposited £382 in a bank but by May 6 all the money had been withdrawn and a large part of it had gone to the defendant and his friends.

The reasons for that are something of a mystery, but it is fair to say there is no evidence known to the Crown of any threats or blackmail to Mr Holroyd', Mr Savill said.

According to a boy, aged 14, added, the defendant had only to ask Mr Holroyd for money and he was given it. Sums varied from £9 to £115. The defendant also used to accompany Mr Holroyd to the post office and was given some of his war pension.

On June 24, the defendant drank nine pints of beer and just before midnight, together with his cousin, aged 16, went to Mr Holroyd's flat. The cousin stayed an hour before leaving. The defendant did not return until 3 am. He told his cousin and a girl friend that he had killed Mr Holroyd.

A boy, aged 16, of Arum Street, Bradford, told the court that in June he was living at the defendant's house. On June 24 he and the defendant went to Mr Holroyd's flat at about 11.45 pm and talked to him. When he left the flat, Mr Holroyd was in bed and the defendant was sitting on the settee.

Next morning he noticed that the defendant's shirt, pants, hands and arms were 'full of blood'. The defendant said he had put Mr Holroyd out of his misery.

The witness said he went to Mr Holroyd's flat, where he broke a window and climbed in to see if what the defendant had said was true.

Asked by Mr Savill what he saw when he got in, the witness replied: 'It was a mess.'

Asked about the defendant's attitude, he said: 'I do not think he was right, bothered. He did not give me any reason for having done that.'

The trial was adjourned until today.

In brief

New search Lord Lucan

Sussex Police began search of Newhaven yesterday for Lord Lucan teen divers were involved in 14 dogs searched passed Napoleonic fort on the coast. The search will continue on the Downs.

Warrants against Lord aged 39, all the Mrs Sandra Rivett, 35, and the murder of his wife on 1973.

'Hoax call' remains Rodney Utzing, aged 40, employed of Kenmuir Northampton, was remanded for a week in custody of Northampton, charged with malicious telephone calls to town's general hospital.

Water-boost plan A plan to cope expected demand for million gallons of water over the next 40 announced yesterday South West Water Authority.

Wheat record hit A record wheat 15,900,000 tons in 1974, the Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday. Previous record was 15.3 million in 1972.

Beautifying York Grants of more than £100,000 for landscaping, repairs and improvements in York announced yesterday by the Environment Department.

Lorries sabotaged Police in the Greater London area last night hunting for a saboteur cut the air brakes for lorries for the second month.

Vice picket plan Residents of Newhampton, plan to homes of the notorious 'girls' in their effort up the area of vice.

Bus strike spreads Busmen at Macclesfield, yesterday joined official pay strike, halted most Scottish outside Edinburgh or

Overtime ban threatens bread shortage

By Raymond Perman Labour Staff

The prospect of a bread shortage in England and Wales from next week emerged last night when the executive of the Bakers' Union banned overtime and Sunday work from next weekend unless employers meet a claim for £40 for a 40-hour week. Union members had voted 17,576 to 5,533 to reject an offer of a basic £30 and to take industrial action.

The present basic rate is £23.80. Threshold payments now adding £4.40, would be absorbed in the new basic offer.

The union is to meet the Federation of Bakers, which represents Sainsbury's, Rank Hovis, McDougall and Allied Bakeries and smaller independent companies, on Friday.

Any increase in the offer is likely to lead to an application by the manufacturers for an increase in the price of a loaf. They are understood to have calculated that the rejected offer would have meant a 1p rise.

The Government will then have to choose between substantially increasing the £74m bread subsidy or allowing the price of a loaf to pass 15p.

Test of social contract: Building employers' leaders yesterday made a pay offer to a million workers that will test the building unions' allegiance to the social contract at its most sensitive point (our Labour Editor writes).

Leaders of the Union of Construction Allied Trades and Technicians (Ucatt) will today consider the offer which would raise average earnings by about £4 a week from January and by a further £5 from June, 1975.

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Liberal call for convention on assembly plans

From Our Correspondent Edinburgh

The Scottish Liberal Party will ask the Government to convene a constitutional convention before introducing legislation for a Scottish parliament, to hear as wide a range of Scottish opinion as possible on the form it should take and the powers it should have.

Such a convention should be held as soon as possible in the new year, the party says. For the Government to proceed directly to a Bill in the House would be a mistake. 'Every effort must be made to see the establishment of a parliament on a basis that the many conflicting interests accept', Mr Russell Johnston, MP for Inverness and leader of the party, said in Edinburgh yesterday.

The Government's proposals for an assembly were an attempt to maintain the existing organization and somehow put a Scottish assembly on top of it or into the middle of it.

Builder 'played Monop with green belt land

A builder played 'a game of Monopoly' with 25 acres of land he bought in the green belt, Mr Justice Cantley said in the High Court yesterday.

Mr William Gams, aged 65, saw great commercial potentialities in the land he bought at Iyer Heath, Buckinghamshire, in 1956, the judge said. 'He was prepared to wait, although not perhaps to wait patiently.'

Twice he was refused planning permission for residential development, and an application to build two filling stations was also rejected. But when, in 1972, he asked Beaconsfield district council for permission to build a bungalow, he offered to pull down the farmhouse on his land after the bungalow had been erected.

He said he knew that if he did not do that he would not be given permission to build the bungalow', the judge said.

Permission was granted, but when the bungalow was finished he did not demolish the farm

house. He wrote in his affidavit that it would be a 'waste of good land'.

The judge granted an injunction restraining Gams from occupying the land until the farm demolished.

Mr Gams has round 'the judge there is no reason should be dealt with. He would not enforce an injunction for two men Mr Gams was awaiting come of his appeal to the High Court for it meant.

The judge looked groups of the two hot are both very nice 'and there is no farm to suggest ripe for demolition council's condition should demolish the was a 'waste of good land'.

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HOME NEWS

Colonel is awarded 1/2p damages for 'sex trap' libel

Lieutenant Colonel John Elliott Brooks, aged 64, won his High Court action for libel yesterday, but was awarded only 1/2p damages. A jury of nine men and three women took three hours to decide that the former mayor, solicitor and hunting squire had been libelled in *The Sunday People*.

As he left the court after the verdict Colonel Brooks said: "As far as I am concerned, we won."

Workmen on scaffolding, cleaning the Law Courts, shouted on being told the result: "We will have a collection for you." Jostled on every side, Colonel Brooks said: "I am not despondent. It was worth bringing the action." He said he could not change his style of life.

The colonel brought his action over an article in *The Sunday People* which accused him of setting a "sex trap" for young girls and assaulting Miss Susan Carr, aged 21, a Manchester University student, on board his boat, Adelaide Cottage III.

Colonel Brooks, a former Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea, claimed damages from IPC Newspapers Ltd and Mr Michael O'Flaherty, the writer of the article. They denied libelling Colonel Brooks, of Carlyle Mansions, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea.

As a result of yesterday's decision, each side must pay its own costs. Total costs are estimated at between £12,000 and £15,000.

Mr Michael Eastham, QC, for the defendants, told Mr Justice

that although Colonel Brooks had won the case, the amount of damages awarded was so derisory and contemptuous that he could order Colonel Brooks to pay the newspaper's costs.

But the judge said the defendants could have paid a modest sum into court to protect themselves against having to pay their own costs if they thought the claim lacked merit. "Even one penny would have been enough", he added.

Mr Eastham said the decision not to pay money into court had been taken deliberately.

Mr Roger Gray, QC, for Colonel Brooks, asked for the usual order in the circumstances, no order on costs. The judge agreed and judgment was formally entered for Colonel Brooks.

Afterwards, Colonel Brooks commented: "It has cost a lot of money. But it sometimes costs a lot of money to prove the truth, as you gentlemen of the press know. In order to prove the truth I would have spent my last penny. It has been proved I have been telling the truth."

The colonel spoke of the loyalty of his family, friends, staff and clients as he walked across the Strand to the Wig and Pen Club for an impromptu press conference.

Since the last war several libel actions have ended with similar awards. In 1964 Dr Wladislaw Daring, a former prison doctor in Auschwitz concentration camp, was awarded a halfpenny for libel in *Exodus*, the book by Leon Uris. In



Colonel Brooks: awarded 1/2p damages, but must pay his costs.

January this year Lady Docker was awarded 1p in a libel action against the *Sunday Express*.

Miss Carr, a former pharmacy student, whose disclosures to *The Sunday People* brought about the case, was not in court yesterday. Last week she had told the jury that she was smacked on her bare bottom about thirty times by the colonel, Miss Susan Godwin, *The Sunday People's* reporter who "bugged" the colonel's conversation at the Wig and Pen club, was absent also.

Ending his three-and-a-half-hour summing-up, the judge said that if the jury found for the plaintiff they had to remember that damages were compensation for Colonel Brooks and not punishment for the newspaper.

But they had to bear in mind that it was not Colonel Brooks's surface reputation they were concerned with; it was the reputation he ought to have in view of the truth about himself which had fallen from his own lips.

Was the colonel's real reputation that of a practising sadist ready to take on a two girl crew on an afternoon cruise if the family was not on board? Or, the judge asked, was the truth of the matter that he took girls for his perverted sexual requirements only when they were provided willingly through the good offices of Miss Dorothy Rolis, his sporting and social secretary.

If it was, the jury might well ask themselves how much lower a man could get in the eyes of right-thinking people than that.

Parental 'clues' to battered babies

Parents should be admitted to hospitals with their injured children for observation, a conference on battered babies was told yesterday. The behaviour of parents is crucial in determining whether a baby is the subject of battering, Miss Jean Davies, a state registered nurse and health visitor, told the one-day conference at Chester.

One mother, she said, had been discovered feeding her "poisoned" child with barbiturates while still in hospital under the eye of the nurses. She said: "Ideally, you should be able to admit both mother and father to hospital to observe their behaviour."

Between four and five thousand children a year in the United Kingdom are maltreated. About a tenth of them are estimated to die of their injuries and four hundred suffer permanent brain damage.

Miss Davies said schools should give more preparation for parenthood. She said: "With the crowded curriculum and pressure to pass examinations this instruction often only involves children in the lower-intelligence range and in many cases it involves only girls. It is just as important for boys to learn about family relationships." Home management also should be taught, as trouble in the home often arose from the pressure of being in debt.

Fathers should be more involved with their babies. "Seeing a film on the birth of a baby is not enough. The father should be allowed to hold the baby, and never mind the germs," Miss Davies said.

Dr Ann Raikes, a consultant paediatrician, of Poole, emphasised the importance of allowing the mother to hold her baby in the early hours of its life, particularly after feeding. Many cases of later battering, she said, could be traced back to the baby being "whisked" away from his mother.

Such treatment might be clinically better but it was not psychologically better.

Asked whether baby-batterers should be sterilized, Mr Raymond Castle, chairman of the conference, and head of the battered baby research unit of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, said: "I would not advocate sterilization. But mothers often recognize that they need help, and are refused it. For example, a GP may refuse to help over an unwanted pregnancy and encourage the mother to go through with it. We see the results."

Sex in 'Last Tango' degrading, jury told

The film *Last Tango in Paris* went on trial at the Central Criminal Court yesterday in what is regarded as the most important obscenity trial since the case of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* in 1960.

The jury, which includes three women, has to decide whether the film is obscene, in a private prosecution said to be without precedent in Britain.

Mr Robert Harman, QC, for the prosecution, said it was the first case of its kind to be brought under the Obscene Publications Act; the first time a prosecution had been brought against a film being shown in a public cinema licensed by a local authority (the GLC); and the first prosecution of a film for which the British Board of Film Censors had issued a certificate.

The case has been brought on a private summons by Mr Edward Shackleton, aged 69, a Festival of Light campaigner and retired Salvation Army officer, of Highworth, near Swindon.

Mr Shackleton, a social worker, told the court that he was personally responsible for taking out the summons. He saw the film at the Prince Charles Theatre in October, 1973, having travelled to London to see it with a view to a private prosecution.

Before seeing the film he had written to the police and the Director of Public Prosecutions. The prosecution was his decision alone.

Mr Shackleton agreed that he did not usually go to the films. It was the first time he had seen *Marlon Brando* act. He did not dispute that the film had been running for 18 months at the Prince Charles Theatre, was now on general release, and had been seen by about two million people.

The jury were told that they would be shown the film, and were sent home for the day while the judge heard legal arguments.

The distributor, United Artists Corporation, has denied two charges: having an obscene article for publication for gain; and publishing it by letting or hiring the film to the Prince Charles Theatre. United Artists is represented by Mr Jeremy Hutchinson, QC, and Mr Richard Du Cann, who were both junior defence counsel defending Penguin Books in the *Lady Chatterley's Lover* case.

Before the jury were sworn the judge refused a prosecution suggestion that he should inquire of potential witnesses whether they had seen it.

Mr Justice Kenyon said the jury had to be at random.

Mr Harman told the jury that *United Artists*, a distribution corporation, was far from the aura of shabby street organizations at films.

Last Tango, made in 1972, was shown at the Charles in 1973. Its producer and director were Italian stars were Marlon Brando and Maria Schneider.

The film, which has a certificate, was freely to be viewed by anyone of the age of 18.

For the purposes of an article was obscene tended to deprave and corrupt those who might find highly indecent that was neither here nor there, unless they found it potentially harmful.

Mr Harman said the about a man in his late fifties and a girl half his age. "The prosecution submits that this film is because of the sadistic to sex which the character played by Marlon Brando with violence and the body of the girl".

"He is determining know the girl as a hub but as an object on get his own kicks. She get to have been his and he treats her as prey for sex without emotion: a distraction personal despair and boost to his vanity."

"He degrades her of intercourse within of their meeting, but they are still both full. They have intercourse against the wall of apartment. Thereafter frequently in the apartment he can repeat their anonymous sex scenes."

"There is an occasion he performs an act on her, making her re-he assaults her, blasphemous and obscenities on the spur of the imagination."

Mr Harman said ended with the girl as man dead.

Mr Harman said a view of *United Artists* was a great artistic achievement by persons of integrity.

Diar

Government warned not to cut teacher-recruiting

The National Union of Teachers has warned the Government not to take the irrevocable step of cutting down on recruits to teacher-training because of "inadequate and precarious" forecasts of the declining birthrate.

Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told the Commons last week that the 1981 target for the total teaching force could be cut by more than 50,000 without any fall in standards.

Mr Alan Evans, the union's education officer, said yesterday that the Government should not draw up its programme for teacher-training and education on the basis of very precarious projections and yet at the same time give scant attention to the operational needs of schools and the nature of the teacher's job. He called for a detailed scrutiny of manpower needs.

The warning comes on the eve of today's meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Supply and Training of Teachers, when the Government's representatives are likely to get a tough reception from union members.

The Department of Education and Science will discuss with the advisory committee proposals to cut drastically the target set in 1972 to have 510,000 teachers by 1981.

Yesterday Mr Evans cited a previous report by the advisory committee which indicated that by 1981, despite the birthrate projections, 511,000 teachers would be needed.

Police in murder hunt sail into mock sea battle

A policeman was flown back to Dyce, Aberdeen, yesterday with reports from the Fife murder squad on board the fleet of naval ships engaged in mock nuclear battles in the North Sea.

The detectives hunting the murderer of a woman shop assistant near Rosyth dockyard before the six-nation fleet sailed.

Mr Robert Murison, Chief Constable of Fife, said yesterday: "The constable left the Dutch frigate *Friesland* while the ships were anchored at Scapa Flow. It is now essential that we cross-check information gathered by the 29 policemen on board the warships with that being collated ashore."

"We cannot yet point the finger at any particular ship but we are now pursuing one or two useful leads."

Smaller telescope would still be 'an ugly intrusion'

The smaller radio telescope Manchester University proposes to be built at Melton, near Welshpool, would still be an ugly intrusion in landscape, Mr Simon Meade, director of the Council for the Protection of Rural Wales, said yesterday.

The university originally planned to erect the world's largest steerable radio telescope on the site with a 375ft diameter dish. Many objections were heard at a public inquiry before the Secretary of State for Wales gave approval.

Earlier this year the project was abandoned by the Science Research Council because of rising costs. The university submitted a fresh planning application to Montgomery District Council for an instrument with an 80ft diameter dish.

Mr Meade said that although an 80ft telescope would be less objectionable, it would be out of accord with the planning policy for the area. The university had admitted that it had not taken amenity or environmental considerations into account.

"The criteria were scientific alone, dictated by the immense size and the consequent need for a large area of radio quietness", he said. "Though the objectors put forward various alternatives, none of them was said to fulfil these requirements as well as the Melton site."

He thought that there must be a far wider choice of suitable alternative sites for a smaller telescope.

Gas released at sea

The operation to clear the arsine gas from the Asiafreighter into the atmosphere in the Atlantic has been successful, it was learnt yesterday.

Ban on cane sou

Bolton Social Services Committee yesterday banning the cane at ment for naughty homes.



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WEST EUROPE

Mr Hattersley says EEC summit agenda is too detailed

From Roger Berthoud Brussels, Nov 25

Mr Roy Hattersley, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, made a surprise attempt here today to save Mr Wilson from having his hands tied in advance of next month's EEC summit conference in Paris.

At the third meeting of foreign ministers to prepare the ill-starred summit, Mr Hattersley suggested that the heads of government might find the 24-page document on inflation, unemployment, regional policy and energy, drawn up by senior officials, a little too detailed and inhibiting.

He proposed that it should be forwarded to the summit with a covering note indicating that it was simply a background document on the main problems of the day. The heads of government could then have a genuine discussion, rather than squabbling over disputed passages.

Mr Hattersley, who was standing in for Mr Callaghan, seemed to have no objection to the parallel paper on improvements in the EEC's machinery being treated as a full working document at the summit (which is still expected to take place on December 9 and 10).

This is still subject to British reservations. The British majority voting in the Council of Ministers, direct elections to the European Parliament and the goal of economic and monetary union. These may be the subject of a separate statement. The British claimed the support of the German, Dutch and Luxembourg governments for their suggestion. But the French chairman, M Jean Sauvagegarbes, clearly did not welcome it and discussions continued without a final decision.

The Irish and Italians, with the former Prime Minister, Sigior Aldo Ramor, in tough

form as Foreign Minister, continued to insist on an adequate regional fund as a prerequisite of summit attendance.

The Labour Government is still preferring to concentrate on Britain's contribution to the EEC budget rather than the benefits received from it; and the Germans appear determined not to allow the British to benefit without an assurance of continued British membership.

According to Benelux sources, there was general agreement that the fund should concentrate initially on Ireland and Italy. Its size is likely to remain in dispute for some time.

The Germans, budget conscious as ever, resisted the European Commission's suggestion that the EEC's existing social fund should have its 1975 budget of 334m units of account (£140m) increased by 200m units to help areas hit by the oil crisis.

Some progress was made on the fight against inflation. The essence of this was that countries should be frozen, with all growth channelled into productive investment in deficit countries.

On energy, the prospects of the Paris summit redeeming last December's Copenhagen fiasco seemed dim. The French, who alone are boycotting the new International Energy Agency (consumers group) want EEC support for a conference with the oil producers.

Other partners suspect this may be premature, and want France to join the Agency. President Giscard d'Estaing may wish to keep his options open for his meeting after the EEC summit with President Ford.

Barcelona workers find cardinal as their ally

From Our Correspondent Madrid, Nov 25

Nearly 14,000 employees of Spain's biggest car manufacturer, Seat, sued the company in Barcelona today for alleged unfair labour practices. Their action has coincided with a call from the Archbishop of Barcelona to the Government to let legal strikes.

The 13,654 workers are demanding compensation for a 10-day lockout recently imposed by Seat after strikes during labour negotiations. Rarely if ever before in Spanish legal history has a suit had so many claimants.

In his request to the Government, the Archbishop, Cardinal Narciso Jubany, did not specifically mention the Seat dispute but he did refer to "serious concern" about extensive labour disputes in the archdiocese. The message, in the form of a note, was issued on Saturday, but no mention of it was made in yesterday's Madrid newspapers.

"The right to strike must be regulated by law," the note said. "The hour has come for those who enjoy certain privileged positions to accept that they should renounce them." Entrepreneurs were exerting "strong pressure on workers by threatening dismissals, interrupting professional advancement and closing down businesses." New legislation on labour was urgently needed because the existing legislation "has consequences of a diverse nature, prejudicial to the common welfare."

The note argued that the present labour laws "create illegal and clandestine situations." Furthermore, "a narrow view of what public order should be" impels authorities to use "pressures which paralyse actions aimed at achieving just labour concessions."

The Archbishop appealed for a more equitable distribution of income, saying that capitalists "should accept new forms of participation, in which the workers should be present." Cardinal Jubany's note is one of the toughest and most direct attacks on policies of the Franco regime from a leading representative of the Roman Catholic Church in this country since the church-state crisis at the beginning of this year. The latter resulted from a Basque bishop's public plea for greater official recognition of Basque culture, customs and language.



Rome square invaded from slums

From Our Own Correspondent Rome, Nov 25

The famous square, attributed to Michelangelo, surrounding Capitol Hill is hung with slogans demanding homes for the shanty-town dwellers, and a

relay of women are maintaining a loud stream of amplified protests audible through much of the site of ancient Rome.

The equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius in the centre of the square has a roughly painted picture, hanging from the horse's tail, showing a slum building infested with rats. The slogan reads: "This is how we live." Round the base of the statue are 13 photographs of slum dwellings.

The women interrupt their speeches with cries of "requisition" and a rhythmical chant meaning: "The houses are there. Why can't we have them?" Some have brought their children. They have put up a tent where they keep a petition which passers-by are invited to sign.

Other placard points out that there are 60,000 empty lodgings in the city while thousands of people are living in inhuman conditions.

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Pope calls abortion discrimination

From Peter Nichols Rome, Nov 25

The Vatican today issued a sternly worded declaration reiterating a total ban on abortion. Never, it is pointed out, under any pretext could abortion be resorted to, either by a family or by a political authority as a legitimate means of regulating births. Roman Catholics are forbidden to favour any law admitting the principle of abortion or to vote for such a law.

The document asserts that the first right of every human being is his life. "He has other goods and some are more precious, but this one is fundamental—the condition of all the others. Hence it must be protected above all others. It does not belong to society, nor does it belong to public authority in any form to recognize this right for some and not for others."

"All discrimination is evil, whether it be founded on race, sex, colour or religion. It is not recognition by another that constitutes this right. This right is antecedent of its recognition, it demands recognition and it is strictly unjust to refuse it."

Any discrimination, the document continues, based on the various stages of life is no more justified than any other discrimination.

The right to life remains complete in an old person, even if one greatly weakened, and it is not lost by one who is incurably sick. The right to life is no less to be respected in the small infant just born than in the mature person.

"In reality, respect for human life is called for from the time that the process of generation begins. From the time that the ovum is fertilized, a life is begun which is neither that of the father nor of the mother; it is rather the life of a new human being with its own growth. It would never be made human if it were not human already."

A private member's Bill calling for the legalization under certain conditions of abortion here has been drafted by Sigior Loris Fortuna, the Socialist who was co-author of the country's first divorce law.

The arguments here of those favouring liberalization are that abortion happens already on a large scale. Figures are given of between one and two million illegal abortions a year. The problem is seen to be one of exercising some sort of control over what is happening by bringing the problem out into the light of day.

Citroen tells 2,700 to go

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Nov 25

At the centre of France's labour worries tonight was an announcement from the Citroen car firm that it was declaring 1,400 engineers and executives redundant and pensioning off early 1,300 other employees.

Other large-scale redundancies in the car industry are expected.

After the announcement, union leaders at Citroen said they would be seeing the Minister of Labour tomorrow to demand that the state step in to save their jobs. Citroen also announced price increases on all its models.

Icelandic ship fires on German trawler

From Dan van der Vat Bonn, Nov 25

The West German Government responded angrily today to an incident off Iceland last night, when a gunboat fired four shells at a Bremerhaven trawler, apparently without warning.

According to a spokesman for the owners, the trawler Arcturus, 724 tons, was shot at three times by the Icelandic patrol boat, Aggir, without any previous warning or order to leave the area.

to at once, a fourth shell was fired. Then a seven-man boarding party took over the vessel at which point radio communications were cut off. The trawler was later brought into Reykjavik.

A Government spokesman said here today that Bonn regarded the incident as a flagrant breach of international law. The West German Ambassador had lodged a protest with the Icelandic Government last night, demanding the immediate release of the crew.

As far as Bonn is concerned this is the most serious incident since Iceland unilaterally extended its fishing limit more than two years ago from 12 to 50 nautical miles.

It came as a particular surprise as the resulting "cod war" seemed to have died down months ago, especially after an interim agreement had been arrived at between Iceland and Britain. So far, however, no such pact has been concluded with West Germany.

Baader-Meinhof man to be seen by M Sartre

From Our Own Correspondent Bonn, Nov 25

M Jean-Paul Sartre, the French novelist and philosopher, was today given permission by a West German court to visit an alleged leader of the "Baader-Meinhof group" of anarchist urban guerrillas who is in prison.

The Baden-Württemberg Supreme Court in Stuttgart allowed his application, despite objections from the Federal Attorney-General, to visit Herr Andreas Baader, who has been in a hunger-strike for more than two months.

The court agreed with the view of the prison authorities that such a visit represented no risk in normal security conditions.

M Sartre made his request because he wanted to pose certain questions to Herr Baader, which are of importance in understanding the world of the 1970's.

Herr Baader is alleged in the longest indictment ever drawn up in West Germany to be one of the five members of the "hard core" of the group, which is charged with five murders, 54 attempted murders and acts of terrorism. One of the five died recently after a hunger-strike, whereupon a West Berlin judge was shot in "revenge". The remaining four are due to go on trial in the spring.

Novel with a curse theme wins Femina prize

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Nov 25

A controversial new novel which attacks with mingled humour and indignation the effects on contemporary society of the giant multinational corporations, today won the Femina literary prize. It took the 10 women members of the jury an unprecedented 12 ballots before a majority emerged.

They finally chose L'Imprécateur by René-Victor Pilhes, which is a bestseller in Paris. L'Imprécateur takes its name from a mysterious senior executive of the French branch of a fictitious multinational company who imparts a "curse" by

inventing messages which completely disrupt the staff and business. Humour turns to tragedy as the left-wing author makes the staff indulge in a witch hunt and torture to find the culprit.

Pilhes is a former advertising copywriter and now a director of a leading Paris advertising agency. He is 40. The Prix Médicis—which M Pilhes won for a previous novel in 1965—was awarded today at the first ballot to M Dominique Fernandez for Porporino ou les mystères de Naples, a novel about the life of an eighteenth-century castrato singer set in Italy.

Multinational companies subject of Bonn talks

From Our Own Correspondent Bonn, Nov 25

Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, opened a meeting in Bonn today on multinational companies which drew attention to itself by the unusual secrecy surrounding it.

It was clear that the security measures were designed to prevent a leak rather than a crime as representatives of international companies and American and West German trade unions gathered for what was described as a "dialogue".

The meeting took place under the auspices of a foundation largely financed by the ruling Social Democratic Party. In the chair was Herr Ernst-Wolf Moenneken, chairman of the executive board of Krupp.

According to a brief statement put out by the foundation, the aim of the conference is to discuss basic considerations relating to multinational companies and thereby to intensify the American-West German dialogue on this issue.

OVERSEAS

Mr Ford puts a sober assessment on arms agreement with Russ

From Fred Emery Washington, Nov 25

President Ford, evidently preferring the modesty counselled by Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, to the exultation of his press secretary, arrived home last night from his Far East summit sounding a note of restraint.

A new nuclear arms agreement with the Soviet Union, he said "is now within our grasp", ceilings on strategic forces had been accepted but "many details remain to be worked out". But he and Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, "established a sound basis for a new agreement which will constrain our military competition over the next decade".

Mr Ford is to begin briefing congressional leaders on the missile details tomorrow. Pending receipt of a written statement on numbers from the Russians, supporters are holding their applause and cheering their fire. It is far from clear whether the "ceilings" apply to warheads as well as to the missiles that deliver them.

The joint United States-Soviet statement expresses limitation only on missiles that can be equipped with the multiple warheads—not on how many they may carry.

Mr Ford sounded more sober than the triumphant return publicly envisaged in the euphoria of Vladivostok by Mr Ron Neese, the Press Secretary.

It remains that the agreement is much more than a crisis averted, and it is again seen in Washington as evidence of Dr Kissinger's ascendancy in the Administration.

It is now accepted by those who travelled to Vladivostok that splendidly though Mr Ford and Mr Brezhnev had it off, the basic new approach to the arms balance had already been sewn up by Dr Kissinger during his visit to Moscow in October.

It says much, of course, that a conservative President who is hawkish in his attitudes towards the Soviet Union, should have so quickly embraced so sensitive an agreement for fundamental defence.

The United States has far

more warheads than the Union but the Russian more powerful rockets potentially, equip the same number of rockets with many warheads in the future.

Another apparent gap announcement yesterday lack of limitation on power. Again, this is put in the Russians' advantage giving them greater weight "a missile."

There is confusion in Pentagon over these details. Pentagon officials are saying that they have been the dark. The Baltimore reporter accompanying Mr Ford asserts that the number of MIRVs will be limited. The Washington man says the opposite. Dr Kissinger's press cor in Vladivostok.

The tentative agreement built on to the interim agreement of 1972 which the United States to have land ICBMs, against 1 the Russians; and 656 launched missiles against the Russians.

Now to be included in the American's 450; Russians 150 strategic plus whatever new missiles submarines will be agreed.

The most striking feature of this new agreement is Soviet Union would, first time, reduce the number of missiles it is permitted to build, but has not yet under the interim agreement to comply with one.

On the American side would have to be so quibbling of the present advantage the country, MIRV technology.

While this remains prospect until firm is reached, it cannot be looked that the two powers, for the first time, have agreed to refrain from actions they might have carried out in offensive missiles.

It is in this sense "cap" on the arms; the first step to reduce that merely control, weapons.

Kissinger hospital meet with Mr Chou En-lai

From David Bonavia Peking, Nov 25

Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State had a meeting lasting half an hour with Mr Chou En-lai, the Chinese Prime Minister, at a hospital in Peking tonight. Afterwards Dr Kissinger said he could see nothing extraordinary about Mr Chou, with whom he had reminisced about past conversations.

At a banquet given in the Great Hall of the People by Mr Chiao Kuan-hua, the new Foreign Minister, Dr Kissinger said China and America would "continue the policy of normalization". Mr Chiao noted that Dr Kissinger had visited China six times before. In a toast, the Foreign Minister said great changes had taken place in the international scene in the past year.

He added: "The history of mankind always moves forward and turmoil in our view such turmoil is a good thing and not

a bad thing." Mr C paid tribute to "the big role Mr Richard played in improving Chinese relations".

"We also noted a declaration President Ford made that he would implement the Sino-American joint communiqué," the Minis

In reply to Mr Chou Dr Kissinger said the normalization of Sino-American relations was "not an expediency but a fixed of American foreign

He noted that President Ford had met with the Chinese Liaison Office within a few talking orbits and "President Ford has here to continue the of views."

"We live in a period of change and we believe change can lead to better order for all of the world; and I goal that American policy is dedicated

Advertisement for the 1975 German trade fairs. It features the headline "Ideas originate all over the world. German trade fairs present them to you." and a large graphic of a globe with the year "1975". Below the headline is a detailed list of trade fairs scheduled for 1975, organized by month from January to November. The list includes various international exhibitions in cities like Bonn, Cologne, Frankfurt, Düsseldorf, and Hannover, covering topics such as home textiles, furniture, machinery, and food. At the bottom, contact information for the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in the United Kingdom is provided, along with a logo in Arabic script.

Advertisement for "Value Today" magazine. The headline reads "EVERYBODY NEEDS VALUE TODAY". The ad features a large image of the magazine cover, which shows a person's face and the word "Value" in a stylized font. Below the image, the text says "Value Today helps you your talents more and your cheque book 25p monthly". There are handwritten notes in the bottom right corner of the ad, including "Value Today" and "25p monthly".

OVERSEAS

Professor Barnard pioneers new transplant technique by giving patient a second heart

Professor Christiaan Barnard, a South African heart surgeon, today implanted a second heart in the chest of a 58-year-old male patient. It is the first time human heart transplant operation has been carried out without the patient's own heart being removed.

The patient, an unidentified married man with children, was reported to be in a satisfactory condition with his two hearts beating independently. His new heart came from a 16-year-old who was fatally injured in an accident early yesterday. Hospital authorities said the heart was kept beating artificially in her body, which was initially dead, until the transplant operation began at midnight. It was completed five hours later.

"I think doctors will feel much freer to refer patients for heart transplants now because we do not cut out the person's own heart. You should have seen the face of the patient we operated on today when I told him I would not take out his own heart. It was amazing to see the relief."



Captain James Fletcher (right) joking with journalists just after his release from the hijacked VC10. With him are Mr Michael Wood, first officer (left) and Mr Frank Sharples, flight engineer. They said they had not expected to get out alive.

VC10 hijackers give up without safe-conduct

The hijacking of the British Airways VC10 ended today when the terrorists released the three members of the flight crew, their only remaining hostages. They then gave themselves up to the Tunisian authorities, together with seven other Palestinians released from jails in Cairo and The Hague.

freed in Egypt and Holland who were taken on to the VC10. The scene seemed set for the aircraft to take off. Then came the terrorists' desperate threat to blow up the aircraft unless they were allowed to disembark at Tunis with the promise that they would be neither handed over to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) nor prosecuted by Tunisia. Mr Chatti said today that the hijackers had heard on the radio that neither the PLO nor any Arab state wanted them.

removed the weapons and explosives, which were scattered everywhere. At 9.15 am the cars carrying the Palestinians left the airport by a side entrance, to hand over the four hijackers. Mr Belkhadja, who led the negotiations by radio from the control tower, said afterwards that for three days they had had to calm the terrorists down. "The young men were very excited and capable of anything. We came near to catastrophe."

country did not have dissidents? Paul Martin writes from Beirut: The PLO took an important step when it called on Tunis to hand over the four hijackers. A special investigation team from the PLO has flown to Tunis to question the terrorists. Mr Yasser Arafat and the rest of the PLO leadership have made it clear that the time has come for severe action against the mavericks in the movement. The Palestinians have been under pressure, to clean up from the Egyptians, to clear up their own house.

Mrs Rockefeller operated in for cancer

New York, Nov 25.—Mrs Betty Rockefeller, wife of Nelson Rockefeller, the Vice-president designate, today had her signs of cancer removed. Her husband said the operation had been a complete success.

Two Watergate accused cleared on one charge

Washington, Nov 25.—The prosecution rested its case today in the Watergate cover-up trial after presenting evidence for nearly eight weeks. Defence counsel for the five defendants, Mr John Mitchell, former Attorney General; H. R. Haldeman, President Nixon's former chief of staff; John Ehrlichman, former presidential assistant for domestic affairs; Robert Mardian, former assistant Attorney General; and Kenneth Parkinson, former counsel to the committee to elect the President, made a routine request for the court to direct acquittals or rule a mistrial.

President Nixon's evidence is now needed only for the defence, although the prosecution had called him too. Mr Ehrlichman, in particular, alleges through counsel that he was duped by Mr Nixon into a cover-up he did not believe in. Doctors appointed by the court are due to begin examining Mr Nixon at his San Clemente home today. They were sent to find out whether he will be unfit to travel to Washington and appear as a witness, as his own doctors say.

British satellite noored in orbit

Cape Canaveral, Nov 25.—The keynet II military communications satellite was moored in space 22,300 miles above the Indian Ocean last night, providing Britain with its own satellite system. It was placed successfully in stationary orbit after the firing of a motor on board the spacecraft. The firing was commanded from the United States satellite tracking centre in California.

British inquiry into security at foreign airports

The Government's plan for an immediate review of security precautions for British airlines, announced yesterday in the Commons by Mr Ennals, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was generally welcomed last night by the airlines and airline unions. The inquiry will concentrate on security at foreign airports

By Arthur Reed Air Correspondent. The Government's plan for an immediate review of security precautions for British airlines, announced yesterday in the Commons by Mr Ennals, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was generally welcomed last night by the airlines and airline unions. The inquiry will concentrate on security at foreign airports

Dr Waldheim in Damascus

Damascus, Nov 25.—Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, said tonight he was confident that the mandate of the United Nations disengagement observation force would be extended for another six months.

Mr Churchill ignores Burton slur on 'killer'

Mr Winston Churchill said yesterday of the New York Times article by Richard Burton, the actor, describing his grandfather as a killer and a coward: "I am not convinced at all that that is his opinion." Mr Burton is playing Sir Winston in a television drama in America based on the first volume of Sir Winston's war memoirs, *The Gathering Storm*. He said in the article that, while preparing himself for the role, "I realized afresh that I hate Churchill and all his kind—I hate them virulently."

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Dr Waldheim in Damascus

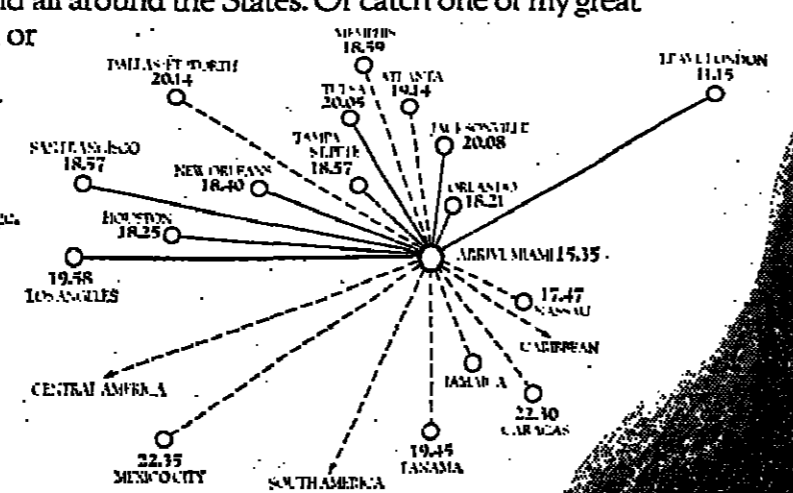
Damascus, Nov 25.—Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, said tonight he was confident that the mandate of the United Nations disengagement observation force would be extended for another six months.

I'm Kathy. Fly me to Miami.



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Vertical text on the left edge of the page, partially cut off, including words like 'RYBO', 'FEEDS', 'TO', 'cheque', 'National Airlines'.

OVERSEAS

Romania's insistence on equality spelt out by Mr Ceausescu

Bucharest, Nov 25. President Ceausescu of Romania called today for better relations with the Soviet bloc but rejected Kremlin demands for a world communist conference as being premature. Speaking in the presence of high-level Soviet and East European delegates at a Romanian Communist Party congress, he said the question of a world communist conference proposed by Russia "is not yet topical."

appeared to suggest willingness to work more closely with the Warsaw Pact than in the past. Mr Andrei Kirilenko, a member of the Soviet Politburo, and the highest-ranking Russian official to attend a Romanian congress since 1965, was seated at the head of a group of 133 foreign delegates at the Bucharest congress centre. The Romanian press gave prominence today to a report that Mr Harold Wilson had sent a personal message to Mr Ceausescu, brought to Bucharest by Mr Ian Mikardo, a member of the national executive of the Labour Party.



Kurdish irregulars muster near the front line in north-east Iraq where they are challenging Government forces.

Like picturesque heroes from boys' fiction, rebels defy a modern army

Kurds take on regulars in set-piece battles

By Edward Mortimer It is not surprising that British correspondents who visit Iraqi Kurdistan usually come back brimming with enthusiasm for the Kurdish cause. In so many ways the Kurdish war is British schoolboy fiction come true. The scenery is just like those films about the North-West Frontier. The people really do wear turbans, baggy trousers and brightly coloured sashes round their waists.

romantic to suppose that they are doing this with Kalashnikovs. What is surprising is that this advantage is apparently not cancelled out by the Government's monopoly of air cover. The Kurds claim that their opponents are benefiting from the advice and supervision of Soviet experts in the coordination of air and artillery action. If this is true, it says little for Russian expertise. The battlefield is constantly overflown by MiGs, Sukhois, Hawker Hunters and Tupolevs. Yet both the bombs and rockets fired by these aircraft and the shells whose aim they presumably help to direct, seem to fall more or less at random.

from the Kurdish positions than vice versa. A further limiting factor for the pilots may be fear of overshooting the Iranian frontier by mistake. So far there has been only one bombing raid on an Iranian village, and this was fairly clearly a deliberate gesture—either an attempt to provoke the Shah into an all-out war, or (more plausibly) a warning to him not to meddle in Iraq's internal affairs.

Either way it has not been followed up, and Iranian support for the Kurds has if anything increased. This is not officially admitted on either side, but the Kurds make no serious attempt to conceal the Iranian provocation of many of their guns and vehicles. This is the first of three articles on the Kurdish rebellion.

Greek Cypriots to be freed from hotel in Kyrenia

From Our Correspondent Nicosia, Nov 25. Acting President Clerides of Cyprus, and Mr Raut Denktash, the Turkish Cypriot leader, had a four and a half hour meeting today in their series of weekly discussions of humanitarian issues arising from the Turkish invasion of the island.

Agreement was reached over 380 Greek Cypriot men, women and children, who have been sheltering in the Dome hotel in Kyrenia, under Red Cross protection, since the town was overrun by Turkish troops. Those who lived in the Kyrenia district would be allowed to return to their homes; the rest would be allowed to move to their homes in the Greek-controlled southern part of Cyprus soon.

Advertisement for 'Goodbye Picasso' by David Douglas Duncan. The ad features a large black and white portrait of Pablo Picasso on the left. The text describes the book as a farewell tribute to a close friend and fellow artist, containing 108 beautiful full-colour reproductions of Picasso's works. It includes a coupon for ordering the book, with fields for name and address, and a return address in London. The price is listed as £9.95 plus 65p postage and packing.

S African party liberalizes race policy

From Michael Knipe Cape Town, Nov 25. South Africa's small Progressive Party has liberalized its race policy by endorsing the right of all citizens to use all public amenities and to have the right to own property without restriction. Until now Progressive Party politicians have expressed the view that local communities should decide for themselves whether colour segregation should be applied.

Advertisement for Rolex watches. It features the Rolex crown logo and the text 'ROLEX of Geneva'. The ad states 'Every Rolex Jeweller is hand-picked, so when you go to one to ask about Rolex you will find a watch expert. He will know of the Rolex technical achievements which have set a pattern for the rest of the watch industry, and the care Rolex take to give every watch the quality that has earned his greatest respect. Rolex Jewellers in the British Isles:'

The party increased its parliamentary representation from one to seven this year, gaining 6 per cent of the votes in the April election. In the constituencies it contested the party won 34 per cent of the votes cast. Some Progressive Party members fear that the new unequal commitment to multi-racial equality may lose the party some support among the Republic's four million whites. The party congress, however, took the view that the liberalized policy will give the party increased credibility among the leaders of the country's 19 million blacks.

- List of Rolex Jewellers in the British Isles, organized by region: BIRMINGHAM, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, CHESTER, COVENTRY, CUMBERLAND, DUNDEE, GLASGOW, LONDON, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE, NOTTINGHAM, OXFORD, SHEFFIELD, SOUTH AFRICA, SOUTH WALES, STRATHMORE, SWANSEA, THAMES VALLEY, WALSLEY, WIMBORNE, WINDSOR, WYBURN.

UN call to break power of 'King of the Cocos'

Canberra, Nov 25.—A United Nations committee has urged the Australian Government to break the power of the "King of the Cocos", Mr John Clunies-Ross, the white estate owner said to dominate the Cocos Islands in the Indian Ocean. In a report to the General Assembly the committee recommended that Australia loosen the hold that Mr Clunies-Ross has over 500 Malay inhabitants who work his copra plantation on the islands.

The visit was made after the Australian report said the Malay inhabitants lived like slaves, even being paid with plastic tokens which could only be spent in Mr Clunies-Ross's store. Mr Clunies-Ross sharply denied the criticisms. The new United Nations report has suggested the introduction of the Australian dollar throughout the territory to replace the plastic tokens. It also recommended that Australia take over the teaching system, introducing compulsory education. In addition, the report proposed an investigation into the tax position of the islands and the Clunies-Ross family.

Police fail to break up student riots

Istanbul, Nov 25.—Left-wing students ejected right-wingers from the campus of Istanbul University today in a battle fought with revolvers, knives, sticks and stones. The police said that a number of students and a colonel of the military police had been injured. Officials ordered the university to be closed for three days. Left-wing students, retaliating for recent right-wing raids on campuses in Ankara, Istanbul, Erzurum and Izmir, had moved into the Istanbul campus in force. Witnesses said that the police officers were yelling "Damn fascists" and "Marxist bastards" at each other.

British victim of jumbo crash identified

Nairobi, Nov 25.—One Briton who died in last week's jumbo airliner crash has been identified as Mr Alan Abbot of Green, Cheshire. It is not yet known if there are any other British victims, the High Commission said.—Reuter.

Tanaka succession struggle opens

From Peter Hazelhurst Tokyo, Nov 25. Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the Japanese Prime Minister, who assumed office in July 1972, will announce tomorrow that he intends to resign both as Prime Minister and as the leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, as a result of a controversy over his personal financial dealings, informed party sources said tonight. It is understood that Mr Tanaka will also issue a public statement tomorrow expressing his regrets that his personal business activities have placed his position as a public figure in doubt.

when Mr Tanaka met senior party executives last night to draft his statement of resignation. He is expected to hand his resignation as leader of the party to Mr Etsusaburo Shibusawa, the vice-president of the Liberal Democrats, and four other party executives early tomorrow. As the leader of the ruling party is automatically entitled to the Prime Ministership, Mr Tanaka will subsequently resign as Prime Minister. The procedure was worked out today by party executives including Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Chief Cabinet Secretary, and Mr Susumu Nakaido, the secretary-general of the ruling party. It is believed that Mr Tanaka will stay on as a caretaker Prime Minister until a successor is chosen. While Mr Tanaka's resignation has already been accepted as a foregone conclusion by the nation, the question being asked in Tokyo tonight is who will succeed him? After an expected bitter back stage struggle between the potential candidates in the coming week, the question will finally be settled by the future alignments of five main rival factions within the ruling party.

ing one of the main factions of the ruling party. The other three main factions are controlled by Mr Tanaka; by Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, a relatively young and ambitious Minister for International Trade and Industry, and by Mr Takeo Miki, the former Deputy Prime Minister and another bitter adversary of Mr Tanaka. Mr Tanaka's faction will certainly support Mr Ohira in the coming struggle. The factions of both Mr Ohira and Mr Nakasone aligned themselves with Mr Tanaka when he defeated Mr Fukuda by 382 to 190 votes in the leadership contest in July, 1972. In the other camp, Mr Miki, who has emerged as one of Mr Tanaka's most vehement critics, will swing his faction behind Mr Fukuda. Mr Eisaku Satoh, the former Prime Minister, who controls a large but less cohesive faction within the party, will probably support Mr Fukuda as well, as he did last time. This will mean that both the main contestants will begin the struggle with roughly equal support. The key to the situation will then be held by Mr Nakasone. He might expect some quid pro quo if he seeks the party leadership in the future and could sweep Mr Ohira into office this time. However, Japanese political observers point out that Mr Ohira's image has suffered as a result of his close association with Mr Tanaka. It is therefore conceivable that Mr Nakasone might change sides.

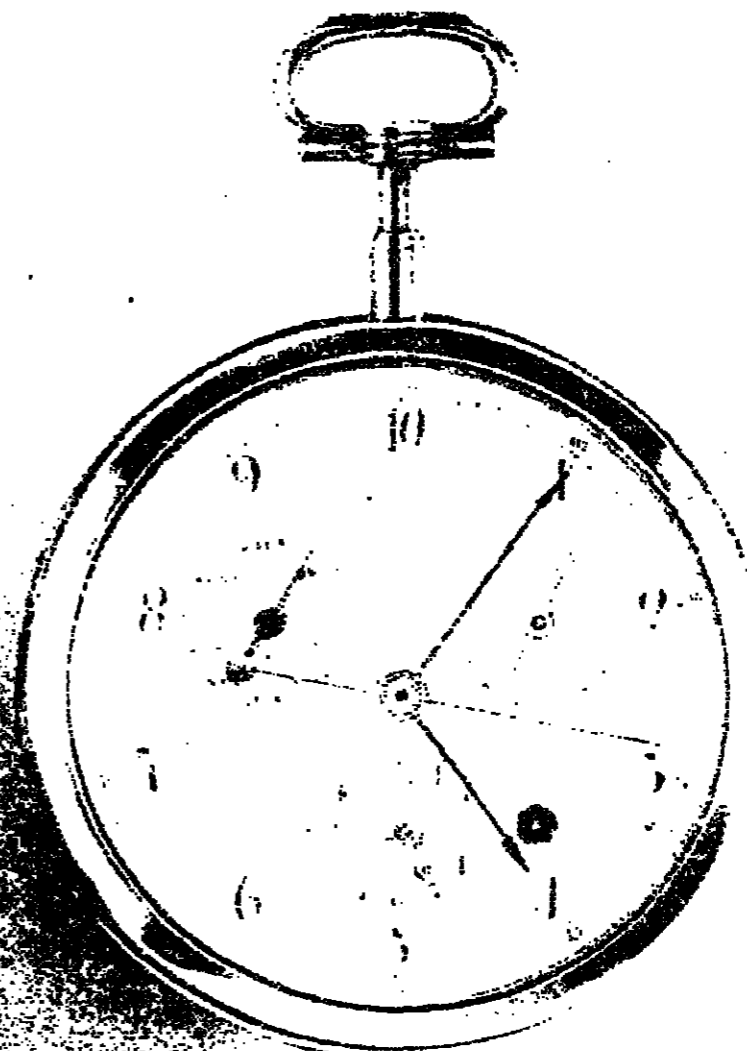
مَكْزَاةٌ مِنَ الْأَصْلِ



Japanese watch, made in Europe for a Japanese client, in 1742. Special embossing by Wilders of London. In Japan every hour had a corresponding sign of the Zodiac and the day was divided into twelve hours, each equivalent to two normal hours. These signs were allied to the five elements.



The Gallery of Portraits watch. Early 18th century. Movement signed by Baltazard Feure. By adjusting the winding crown the portrait in the small frame can be changed. This watch has several portraits, members of the family.

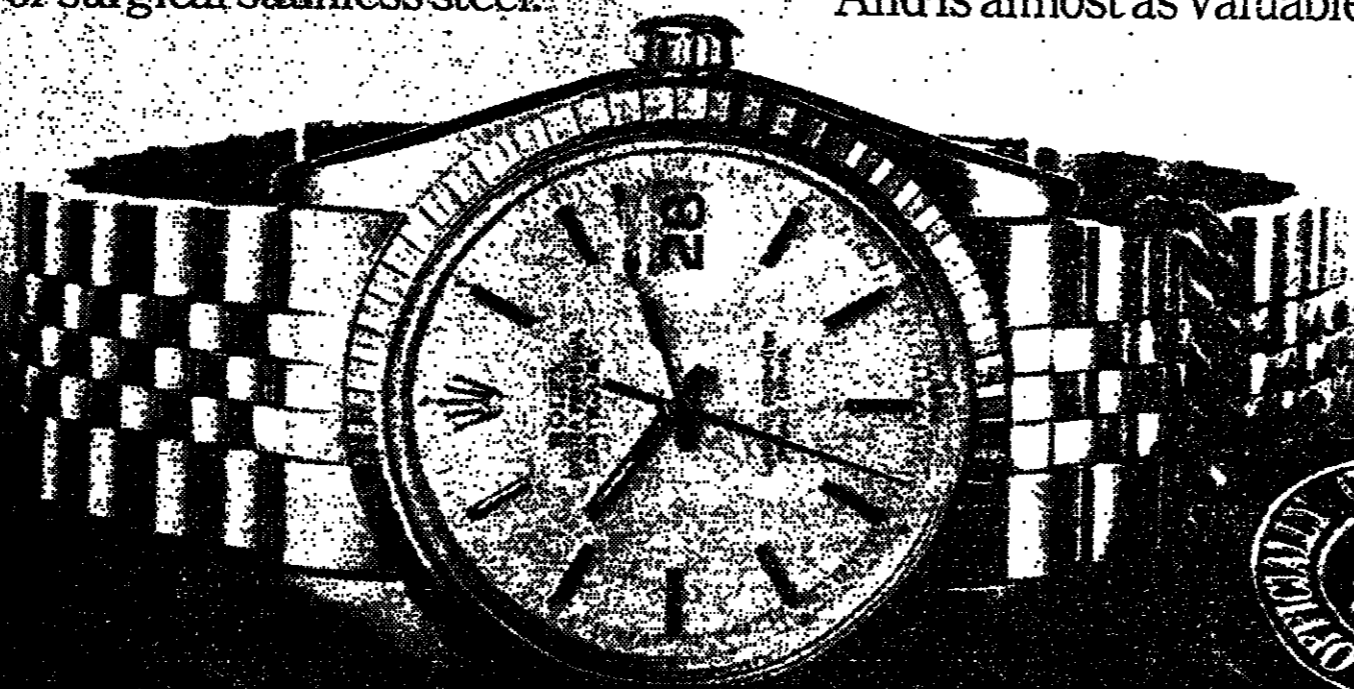


A silver decimal watch, made by Berthoud Freres, Paris, during the French Revolution. It follows the Republican calendar which had twelve months of thirty days and divided the day into ten hours of 100 minutes. Towards the bottom of the dial there is a small traditional dial. The Republican decimal system lasted only a year (1793-1794).

The world's most superb watches have always been rather costly.

The watches above are from a collection at the Rolex Headquarters in Geneva. They were collected by Hans Wilsdorf, founder of The Rolex Watch Company, and form part of one of the finest private watch collections in the world. All the watches were costly when they were new since the meticulous work of skilled craftsmen has always been valued highly. That is why a Rolex Oyster is a very expensive watch today. Each one takes over a year to make. The case of the Rolex Datejust is carved from a solid block of 18ct. gold or surgical stainless steel.

The self-winding Perpetual movement has won almost half the official Swiss Chronometer certificates ever awarded. The 'crystal' face is a unique Rolex device that actually becomes stronger under pressure; and the Rolex winding crown, which screws down onto the case and works very much like a submarine hatch, provides a virtually impenetrable seal. So any Rolex Oyster you can buy now is stronger, has a finer movement, and an artistry as enduring as the rarest collector's piece. And is almost as valuable.



Pictured: Stainless steel Datejust. Men's Rolex Oysters from £36'00 (rec. price) inc. VAT. For full list of selected Rolex Jewellers see opposite.

PARLIAMENT, November 25, 1974

IRA banned: travel controls on Irish: exclusion powers

House of Commons
MR ROY JENKINS, Home Secretary (Birmingham, Stechford, Lab.) said: Since my statement to the House on Friday in the immediate aftermath of the Birmingham bombings, I have given careful consideration to the need to strengthen the powers of the police to prevent acts of terrorism in relation to Northern Ireland and to deal with such terrorists.

1400 fine or both on summary conviction - (shouts of "not imprisonment or an unlimited fine or both on conviction on indictment.")
It will be an offence, punishable on summary conviction with a maximum of three months imprisonment or a £200 fine or both for a person to display in a public place any item of dress or other article so as to arouse reasonable apprehension that he is a member of or a supporter of a proscribed organization.

That purpose, or has knowingly harboured such a person or any person against whom an exclusion order has been made.
It is to be an offence, subject to the same penalties as membership of a proscribed organization, for a person to fail to comply with an order which has been served on him or knowingly to facilitate the entry into Great Britain of a person subject to an exclusion order or knowingly to assist such a person to evade the power to make representations, the form of which will be defined in the Bill.

The Bill will empower a police officer to arrest without warrant a person who is reasonably suspected to be a person concerned in the commission, preparation or investigation of acts of terrorism, a person subject to an exclusion order or a person who has knowingly harboured a terrorist.
The police will be able to detain for 48 hours (and for five more days with the consent of the Secretary of State) and to fingerprint a person arrested under these powers or for a major offence under the Bill.

able offence but there are now limits (not clearly defined) to the extent of time which they can hold him.
I have also considered carefully whether identity cards should be reintroduced. The demand made for resources is manpower and money would be high, and although I propose to keep the possibility of an identity card system under review, my present conclusion is that the call upon resources would be disproportionate to any results which may be achieved.

An immediate review of security precautions of British airlines

MR ENNALS, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Norwich, North, Lab.) made a statement on the hijacking of a British Airways VC10 aircraft by the PLO's Association on many occasions.
He said: At 8.33 am today we learnt that everybody had left the aircraft. The crew were safe, unharmcd, exhausted but in good spirits and are expected to return to London this evening together with some of the passengers.

responsibility of the main powers are concerned with not reaching agreement before now.
Will he insist that these powers be called together immediately to start fresh to try to reach agreement to that tragedies of this kind are met with effective measures by all the powers most directly concerned?
MR ENNALS—We are in touch with Balpa and kept them fully informed of the events. We will be seeking their advice in the course of the review to be carried out by the Secretary of State for Trade.

pressure on those governments ensure that the people who had been denied of foul crimes of humanity are not allowed free, any more than the one murdered the German passenger.
MR ENNALS—The situation still not clear. The Government urgently considering in what way it can bring appropriate restrictions to bear.
MR MATHER (Essex, C) he take international action there are effective penalties terrorism? To have terrorist imprisoned in a jail in answer. They make good extremely vulnerable.

Foalist not to recognize demands for return of capital punishment

SIR KEITH JOSEPH (Leeds, North-East, C), after the Home Secretary had indicated that Conservative MPs will wish to welcome warmly the proposals made by Mr Jenkins. We will try to get the Government to accept as quickly as possible. In Mr Jenkins's own words the powers are draconian and it is our job to deal with the terrorists, to prevent as much as possible an intrusion of these powers upon the innocent. We do not intend to support such a measure as this. The maximum penalty will be six months' imprisonment or a

Will he also accept that there is a demand outside the House in the House of Commons for the return of capital punishment? Would he consider putting this in the Bill, and if so, what would be the effect of it?
MR JENKINS—Yes, I recognize, as an honour, that there is such a demand. However, I cannot pretend that such a measure is included in this Bill.

cribed organizations are liable to commit offences if the broadcast of their names were not so affected. (Cheers.)
I support the appeal he has made to the present government of the United Kingdom in respect of the restoration of capital punishment. Perhaps, as one who presided over Stunungdale and did his best to achieve a solution which would restore normal relationships between North and South, I could make a special appeal to them to act in this matter.

There is a great deal of support for the Bill in the House. The Leader of the House (Mr Short) will make a statement later.
We want to combine great expediency with absence of carelessness in our approach to what is proposed.
On the position in regard to the BBC and ITA, I would like to consider this matter a little further.

Electricity and coal secure this winter
MR WILLIAM HAMILTON (Central, Lab.) asked the Secretary of State for Energy for a statement on the progress being made in the negotiations with the oil companies for the return of state participation both in the exploitation of the resources and in its financial returns.
MR VARLEY—I have written to the oil companies in regard to the oil fields so far declared commercial inviting them to enter into discussions.

Talks this week with North Sea oil companies

is there that the oil companies are opposed to the proposition of a return to the Government? Apart from the question of state ownership, can he give Labour MPs an assurance that the Government will not take the profits of not less than 50 per cent or what the Norwegians take?
MR VARLEY—We are entering into negotiations with the oil companies. It would be wrong to say that we are not willing to spend all the oil proceeds available to the Government or how we propose to proceed with the negotiations.

Under attack
MR HIGGINS (Worthing, C)—Society is under attack from terrorists on a number of fronts, and MPs have indicated this need to consider the problem of terrorism. We have an assurance that a full investigation will take place and a report made to the House.
Since there appeared to be no international support for this latest attack, will the Government press the countries which have not yet agreed or ratified the Montreal Convention to do so immediately?
MR ENNALS—There was no breach in Dublin's security. There were no passengers. They attacked the aircraft after they had broken in to the airport itself. This was a serious question which has to be faced.

Armed personnel
MR ENNALS—We will be seriously a number of people that have been made, both in the past and in the future. In answer to a further question he said: Since there is concern about this situation only abroad but as it might this country, the Government believe that armed personnel should be employed at air control stations in the light of the current threat. In the case of the major in this country, armed personnel are deployed here. On inter-consultation, we shall have an opportunity of making a statement to the House.

Support for beef producers after February

MR PYM (Cambridgehire, C), opening a debate on agriculture, said that the Government would be more reluctant than farmers would to interrupt work to demonstrate that farming families, especially in the north, were being driven to protest because their livelihoods were at risk. The livestock sector had known its worst depression for a long time ahead.
The worst feature (he said) is the absence of any coherent or long-term policy. This accounts for the persistent uncertainty and hesitancy which threatens production of home-grown food. The prospect needs to be brightened up.
There should have been a full scale emergency review of agricultural production and the way in which it was to be improved in marketing. The Government had failed to get the industry and the public to work together to allow a comprehensive course which could be described as a complete policy.

What about the minister's fine words about expansion? How was it to be done? The Government would be more reluctant than farmers would to interrupt work to demonstrate that farming families, especially in the north, were being driven to protest because their livelihoods were at risk.
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Responsibility on Ulster people to end killings

MR MERLYN REES, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Leeds, South, Lab.), in a statement on the seven murders of children in Belfast at the weekend, said that the police have increased by 71 and the reserves by 730.
I reserve the right not to recruit into the reserve people who are not fit for the RUC reserve in the circumstances of Northern Ireland.
MR IAN GILMOUR (Chesham and Amersham, C)—The House will be filled with revulsion at the catalogue of fearful crimes on the minister has read out. All on the Ulster side condemn these crimes. Is there any other way he has in mind in helping the police in what is essentially a policing matter?

These senseless murders are abhorrent (he said). Some are sectarian; others are to pay off old scores. I am sure the House, and the majority of people in this country, are in Northern Ireland, condemn them. They perpetuate hatred and violence in Northern Ireland.
There must be a concerted effort by everyone to prevent these atrocities and to assist the police in every way possible to detect those who are responsible.
THE REV IAN FAISLEY—Is the minister satisfied with the recruitment of the RUC? He is coming forward under the new scheme for a RUC police reserve? Why have some 1,200 of these recruits not yet been produced in the RUC? Is the minister speeding up their recruitment to the police reserve?

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TV interview not offence

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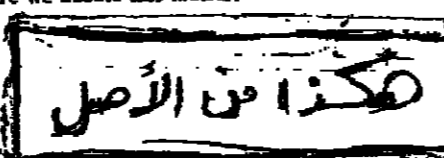
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ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA AND BALLET

MT CASHEM THE ROYAL OPERA... THE ROYAL BALLET... GLISH NATIONAL OPERA... THEATRES... OPERA AND BALLET... THEATRES... OPERA AND BALLET... THEATRES...

THE ARTS

The Royal Variety Performance BBC I

Stanley Reynolds

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother has excellent taste. She is also possessed of a fine sense of humour. Why then, this annual bill of fare? The Hungarian State Dancers leaping and twirling about like the comic chorus in a Marx Brothers film: Paper Lace, a pop group with all the animation of a wooden dog; Ted Rogers, with his creaking jokes...

Horacio Gutierrez Queen Elizabeth Hall

Jean Chissel

Once the province of established middle-generation pianists, the South Bank Sunday series is this season admitting three aspirants, of which the first was Horacio Gutierrez. Although London has only heard him once before in a concerto, this Cuban of 25 is already a name to be reckoned with elsewhere. The reason was not on doubt on Sunday. His virtuosity is of the kind of which legends are made. Liszt's sonata served as centrepiece. Not even from the composer himself could semi-quavers have flashed with more of the brilliance of forked lightning, or deep bass chords have come more as if from a full symphony orchestra, or con fuoco octaves have been thumped off faster than most people manage a single-track chromatic scale.

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Tatlin at Home, and, right, The Spirit of Our Time



A room of one's own in Paris

The Musée d'Art Moderne in Paris now has several rooms which feature the work of a single artist. Just before his death in 1957 Brancusi donated his entire studio with all its sculptures, tools and monolithic pieces of home-made furniture, and it was replete with the families of other sculptors who lived in Paris have followed, making this the best place I know to see the welded steel sculpture of the Spaniard Gonzalez, Pevsner's organic crystalline constructions, and the nudes of Laurens. Ironically the Museum has thus become the passive recipient of beautiful work which in the artists' lifetime could barely find a buyer, let alone a museum space in Paris.

NPO/Muti Festival Hall

Stephen Walsh

Whatever may be thought of Verdi's Four Sacred Pieces as a work of art, it unquestionably contains some of the most difficult writing any amateur choir is likely to encounter in a year of Festival Hall Sundays. Not only are two of the four pieces completely unaccompanied but there is also a cappella writing liberally sprinkled about the other two. There are exposed lines and awkward harmonies and a plethora of sub-piano dynamic markings, culminating in a top G sharp entry for the first soprano, pianissimo, on the unfriendly "so" sound of the word "finito".

Park Lane Group Nash House

William Mann

The monumental exhibition called Germany Facets has already brought Stockhausen's Inori to London. On Sunday it drew attention to other contemporary German composers not so familiar here: Roger Norrington and the Park Lane Music Players, with Jane Manning and Philip Langridge as solo singers, were almost as numerous as the audience at the Institute of Contemporary Arts (a noisy venue for music). Aribert Reimann was already known for his opera Melusine (and as an excellent piano accompanist to Fischer-Dieskau). His Epitaph, to poems by Shelley, was outstanding in its steady basic pulse. But he was in much better form in Mozart's early G minor Symphony (crisply played by the NPO) and in accompaniment to Itzhak Perlman's alternately dazzling and poetic performance of Vieuxtemps's Fourth Violin Concerto.

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Astrid Varnay and Teresa Kubiak

Jenufa Metropolitan Opera House, New York

Peter Davis

Janáček's operas have never made much headway in the United States, and even the Metropolitan's new production of his most familiar work, Jenufa, came as a novelty. Jenufa did briefly enter the company's repertoire, exactly 50 years ago, during the crest of the opera's first international popularity in the Twenties. Maria Jeritzka, the title role then and, quite as dramatically today at 87, she saluted a cheering audience from her Met box at the first performance of the current new production. Jeritzka must have been struck by the warm reception given the opera for in 1924 attitudes to Janáček's music here were quite different. Ironically, considering the composer's present popularity in England, it was the distinguished English critic Ernest Newman who helped fashion America's negative view of the composer. As a guest critic of the New York Evening Post during the 1924-25 season, he wrote of Jenufa: "To [the] crude story, Janáček has written music that is obviously the work of a man who, however many works he may have to his credit, is only a cut above the amateur." Newman went on to speak of the opera's "conventional operatic formulae" and "absurd stage figures". Even allowing for differences in taste, temperament, and musical background, it is difficult to fathom how Newman could so thoroughly dismiss an opera that is now universally admired for its originality. The Met mounted Jenufa handsomely—in fact, one would have to go back to the company's 1966 production of Die Frau ohne Schatten to find

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Small farmers can do more than a world conference to stop famine

If Norman Borlaug, father of the Green Revolution and Nobel prizewinner had had his way, the United States Secretary of State, Dr Henry Kissinger, and a dozen of the other key ministers and heads of state at the world food conference would have been locked into a room for ten days without food and for the last three days without water.

Only by such an outrageous act, Borlaug argued, would the big decisions that had to be taken to avert world-wide famine be made. But this did not happen and the outcome was much as the pessimists feared. There was no significant response to the immediate crisis—the shortfall of approximately 10 million tons of grain which must be found in the next two months if famine of perhaps unprecedented proportions is to be avoided in 1975.

It is widely believed that this grain can only be released if the consumption of the rich countries is reduced: "Food reserves for all practical purposes no longer exist", one senior American delegate told me.

Not surprisingly the western nations fought against making decisions about this in the emotional atmosphere of the conference and the discussion has been relegated to a smaller meeting at the end of the month.

The medium term objective—Dr Kissinger's proposed world-wide reserve system of 60 million tons above present carry-over levels—also made little progress. No one could agree where this 60 million tons would come from or, more important, who would pay for it. "Even so", said one conference official, "it must be regarded as something of a success that everyone agreed that it was necessary."

On long term agricultural improvement, the only noises were made but in the end there was no more evidence than there had been in the beginning that large numbers of developing countries were going to orientate their development policies in the direction of agriculture, or that rich countries would help them with the stable resources that are needed to do it.

What is the price of failure?

So failure it is. And the price of failure? The FAO has estimated, assuming a population growth of 2.7 per cent, that the demand for food in the market economy developing countries will grow at an annual rate of 3.6 per cent. Over 15 years this means an increase of some 70 per cent.

Set against this 3.6 per cent annual growth rate in demand is the actual trend in agricultural production. Between 1961 and 1973 this averaged 2.9 per cent.

What this means—if these projections are continued through to 1985—is that the developing countries would have an annual net cereal deficit of almost 85 million tons in 1969-71, compared with an annual average deficit of only 16 million.

If the traditional cereal exporting countries among the third world countries are excluded the picture becomes worse.

Then the projected cereal deficit jumps to around 100 million tons a year. Even this is a conservative estimate. Bad weather conditions can raise deficits in a single year quite sharply. The cereal deficit in this year's bad season, excluded

ing food exporting developing nations, is estimated at around 50 million tons. So a similar type of catastrophe in the 1980s might mean a shortfall of 120 million tons or more.

The cost of importing 85 million tons of cereal in 1985—assuming it were available (the developing countries could probably grow it without too much difficulty)—would be at 1973/74 prices \$17,500 million. Even at 1969/72 prices it would cost \$8,000 million.

The developing countries certainly cannot afford to buy that amount and it is possible in political terms to conceive of a jump in food aid of 25-fold (the Americans, the principal suppliers of food aid, now spend \$700 million a year on it) in just over a decade?

All the indications point to a worldwide depression of living standards and increasing wide-spread malnutrition. There will, of course, be the occasional big famine—Sahel or Bihar style—but we are more likely to see a different kind of famine—famine thinly spread right across great chunks of the third world slowly, but definitely deepening its hold until nature takes its course and allows deaths to rise in order to match the realities of the situation.

Tragedy of a missed opportunity

Already we are seeing the first signs of this. Lester Brown, the American food expert, says: "There is evidence that death rates are moving up in at least 12 and perhaps as many as 20 developing countries."

The real tragedy behind these statistics and the failure of the world food conference is the missed opportunity. The corridors of the Palazzo del Congresso, the conference centre, who are convinced that there is a way of escape if only the political will is developed.

The distinguished agricultural economist, Edgar Owens, has been among the other speakers to be found in a small number of crowded developing countries where there is no food problem—in Egypt and Taiwan in particular. Output per acre of basic food grains per acre in Egypt is 2,575 pounds; in Taiwan 3,320. This is higher than most of the rich countries and the United States. Yet it is intensive farming on plots that average as little as two or three acres.

If India's agriculture were organized as productively as farms in Egypt, Mr Owens argues, India's food grain surplus would be double that of the total world-wide trade in food grains in 1972.

If certain medium-sized countries, such as Nigeria, Mexico and Pakistan, could double their agricultural productivity overnight, the gap in the world-wide supply of food grains would disappear. Even then their yields would still be a good deal lower than Taiwan and Egypt.

The emphasis on yields is a critical one because the third world for all practical purposes has run out of new agricultural land—on which it has principally depended for increased production until now. This view is shared by Mr Montague Yudelman, the World Bank's vice-president and head of its rural development division. He was in Rome to explain his conviction—and Mr Robert McNamara's too—that there is now enough knowledge available to raise the output of small

farms by 5 per cent a year—in excess of population growth.

Moreover, he argues that it can be done with capital investment opportunities. But this requires a number of prerequisites. First, land reform. "Our research shows convincingly," he argues, "that it is the small farmer who is the most productive."

Second, it requires reform in the fiscal policies of many of the developing countries. "Too often their policies militate against the rural poor... the distribution of public sector spending is heavily skewed in favour of urban dwellers."

Third, it requires a momentous effort covering research, extensions services, credit, school syllabuses, and co-operative organizing.

Mr Yudelman is an admirer of what the Chinese have done to implement these ideas. The Chinese achievement is no longer in question, he believes. But he doubts if many nations are ready for the thorough transformation of attitudes and values that the Chinese approach would call for.

So he is pushing for a more piecemeal approach. He says the Bank is now trying out in the north-east of Brazil and the Kigoma region of Tanzania, in two almost diametrically opposed political systems.

In both these cases, and in a couple of dozen other areas, the Bank is working with 30 to 40 thousand peasant families.

These families are a fraction of the 700 million small farmers, sharecroppers and landless workers that the Bank has isolated as the poorest of the poor—the bottom 40 per cent of the Third World. Two-thirds live in only four countries—India, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Pakistan. Nineteen per cent are in Africa and the rest are in Latin America and the Caribbean. These are the people with an annual income of \$50 or less whose lives are most threatened by the squeeze between population growth and agricultural output.

Revolution in spending money

The Bank knows that it cannot help all these families by itself. But what it can do is set itself up for this task. The Bank has gone through an enormous mental revolution over how it spends its money.

Over the past five years it has doubled its spending on agriculture and in the next five years it will double again. By 1979 the Bank will be investing \$1 billion a year in projects and technical assistance for its poorest members of the countryside.

Mr Yudelman believes that the cost of getting the rural poor on the road to an annual 5 per cent growth in production is \$80 a head—giving a global cost of little more than \$100 billion over 10 years. Not much when compared with the projected \$170 billion total investment, private and public, in developing countries in 1974, but quite a lot when measured against the total annual investment of the lower income countries where the poor are concentrated—more \$25 billion in their case. The question is, will this sizeable initiative by the Bank help trigger off the massive distribution of resources by both developed and developing countries that is called for?

Jonathan Power
© Times Newspapers 1974.

In the debate, renewed after the Birmingham murders, over the restoration of capital punishment for such acts of terrorism, one important point is being neglected or misunderstood, and before the galleys are swept back into use on a tide of public anger at the killings, I think it is necessary to examine it. For I believe that that tide ought to be turned.

One of the most important tasks in war is to discover what the enemy wants, and deny it to him; the corollary, of course, is that the enemy will seek to disguise his true wishes. In the discussion of the correct response to the latest outrages this is the vital principle that is being ignored. Some say that the restoration of capital punishment would deter the murderers, some that it would not; I am not sure that anybody has yet suggested that one of the main purposes of the Birmingham bomb, if not indeed the whole of the Birmingham-Birmingham into bringing back judicial execution. Yet that seems to me very clear. Indeed, it is nothing but an extension of the IRA's actions for some time now. Every time there has been an approach by the British Government to abandoning the use of internment or releasing a substantial number of those interned, the response has been a fresh wave of bombings and shootings, designed to make it politically impossible for such intentions to be carried out. When the Home Secretary made it clear that the Price case would be returned to Northern Ireland if there was a diminution in the terrorist activities, there was an immediate increase in them. And if it were now to be announced that a Bill to provide for the execution of convicted terrorists would be prepared but not introduced if there were no further large scale killings, there would at once be a series of large-scale killings.

Why should this be so? Why should the leaders of the IRA want to see their followers hanged? Why should the O'Connells and the O'Connors and the O'Connors and the O'Connors (how this weekly gang do love to give themselves high military titles like "Field Marshal" Dedun Kennedy of the Mau Mau and "General" Amin I) seek to ensure that the British Government responds with the utmost severity to their campaign? That question was, in my opinion, answered incorrectly in the main leading article in this newspaper last Saturday. The relevant passage was:

It is argued that the death penalty would create martyrs and would thereby strengthen the IRA cause. The IRA already has a string of martyrs who recall in their sentimental moments; it is difficult to believe that the addition of further martyrs, which must in any case happen from time to time, add significantly to their popular appeal.

Also, "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." The Easter Week rising in Dublin had virtually no popular support, and was led by men largely unknown to the general public. But when the leaders were executed, they instantly won an immortal crown in that mythology by which Ireland lives.

Come all you young rebels and list for love of one's land is a terrible thing. It banishes fear with the speed of a flame. —And it makes us all part of the patriot game.

My name is O'Hanlon, and I'm just gone sixteen. My home is Monaghan, there I was weaned; I was taught all my life cruel England to blame. —And so I'm a part of the patriot game.

'Tis barely two years since I wandered away With a local battalion of the Bold IRA. I read of our heroes and wanted the same —To play up my part in the patriot game.

They told me how Connolly was shot in the chair, His wounds from the battle all bleeding and bare, His fine body twisted, all battered and lame —They soon made me part of the patriot game.

So now as I lie with my body all holed, I think of those traitors who bar my rifle and sold. I'm sorry my rifle has not done the same —For the quidlings who sold out the patriot game.

Anyone who has ever heard Dominic Behan, even fully sober, sing that song, will need to be told of the compelling power of Irish republican historiography. But it is unfortunately true that a stale martyr is not nearly as useful as a nice fresh one; it may be "difficult" to believe that the addition of further martyrs adds significantly to the IRA's popular appeal, but the effort must be made, for it does. Even a perfectly ordinary drunken layabout like McDade—indeed, even a pathetic Englishman like Stephenson, had he not preferred tea to martyrdom—can be, and is, used to fill out the

pages of the new *Book of Martyrs*. If we start hanging IRA murderers, we shall have Napper Tandy telling us all over again that "they're hangin' men and women for the wearin' of the green"; and most of Ireland persuaded to believe it. Of course, most of the Irish do not approve of the IRA killers, and even among those who do, most will not take any direct part in their activities; most do not do so now, preferring their various equivalents of the character in a post-O'Casey Irish play about the Troubles who is forever boasting about his heroism in those days until his wife says rather sharply that he had been entirely occupied, during Easter Week, in "ferdin' things out of Woolworth's window". But the IRA fish need a lake of public sympathy, however inactive, to swim in, and they will get it in full flood, from their executed killers. For "There's nothing but our own red blood, Will make a right rose tree".

Nor is it even an answer to say that, although the leaders who live beyond the reach of the British authorities would certainly not be deterred at all by the chance of being hanged, and the "hard men" who organize the killings on their spot scarcely move so, there would be a significant deterrent effect on "the landladies, look-outs and drinking companions", without whom the bombers could not do their work. It might indeed be true; but the truth leads inescapably to an even more terrible trap. No doubt someone who knowingly harboured a killer would be just as guilty, in law, as the killer who went out to plant the bomb and returned to the harbourer. But let us just think for a moment what propaganda effect could be made from the execu-

tion of one who had done more than that, or who received, and got rid of, incriminating evidence, or who even supplied explosives played no further part in outrage. It would be easy the IRA propaganda machine not to mention those in it who sympathize with it, to paint such people as innocent martyrs, guilty of nothing but their devotion to a loved of their enthusiasm for the Liberty Ireland.

Ira furor brevis est. It is that we should feel anger revulsion at such slaughter took place in Birmingham express those feelings, anger and revulsion are not ideal conditions in which to decide on the best course of action. The best course of action is that course of action which is most likely to achieve the effect desired. The desired in this case is the end of the terrorists, one crucifixion in which must be sure that they are deprived sympathy among those to whom they look for support and aid. I do not think that they will help to do it; sympathy for them in the and hearts of those who a live beyond the reach of them by their actions, and consequently I do not believe hanging them will contribute their defeat. I am not into in taking revenge, though understand the feelings of who demand it for the bomb I am interested in ending bombings. I believe that two aims—the exacting vengeance and the defeat of IRA—are incompatible. believe that to mistake a man for a terrorist is a damn And that is why I remain opinion that we should store the death penalty. © Times Newspapers Ltd

A length of rope will never be the answer to a bomb

Bernard Levin

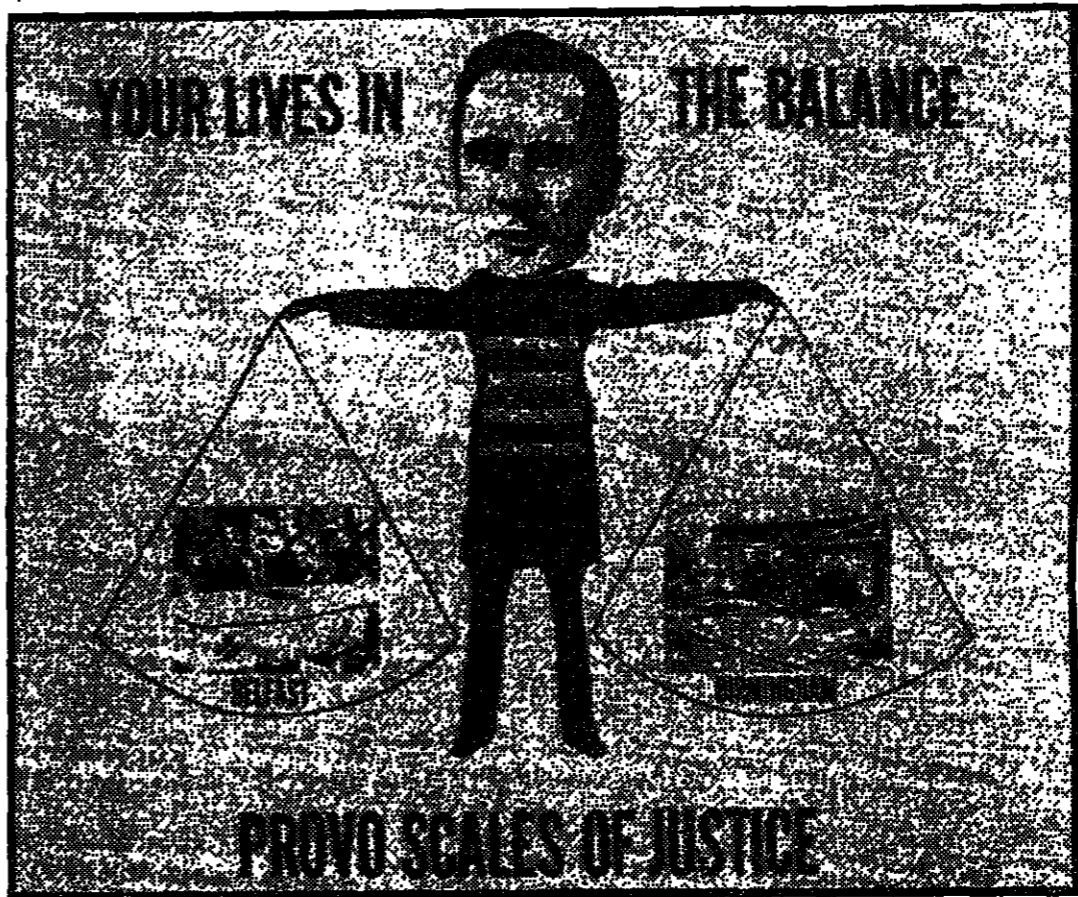
Ulster, until now, a Provisional sympathizer has always been delegated to telephone the police before an explosion at a civilian target and though the system occasionally collapsed with disastrous results, it generally worked. In Northern Ireland these past two weeks, however, the calls have been getting fewer while the bombs have still been planted.

There was, of course, a time when such things would have caused an outcry. The murder of off-duty soldiers in Belfast once awoke sympathy in the hardest of Republican hearts; the killing of the three young

Scots soldiers on the outskirts of Belfast in 1971 seemed then to be the ultimate in horror. Fifteen men, women and children, died in a Catholic public house around the same time, and intelligence from both Republicans and British soldiers since the event suggests that the IRA was responsible—the bomb was "in transit" but was not collected by a Provisional who muddled his timing and paid for it two days later by being shot by his own colleagues. At that time, however, the IRA could not bring itself to claim responsibility.

That, of course, was before the days of proxy bombing, and before the morning when a Roman Catholic judge and a Protestant magistrate could be murdered in their homes, only to be commemorated by the IRA as victims of a "brilliantly timed operation" (the words of the Provisional's own newspaper). In two years, the assassination squads have become a regular feature of Belfast life. Last week, for the first time, both Protestant and Roman Catholic gunmen appeared to have deliberately singled out innocent girl victims and even more worrying for the Army—there

New quality of nastiness among Ulster terrorists



Army propaganda poster: The "face of justice" is David O'Connell, Provisional IRA chief of staff.

now appeared to be an anti-Catholic "loyalist" C gunmen on the streets are anti-Catholic "loyalist" C gunmen.

On Friday afternoon young Catholic girl pump attendant was mugged off the Springfield Road Saturday, a young girl and her mother were killed in the Upper C Road in a shooting pres carried out by a squad who were deliberately for an innocent female worker out of revenge.

The attribution of serious business agents before on both sides. By the day to day assass here, in the same week Birmingham bombs, have on a new quality of nastiness. This is the true significance the English bombings of Belfast civil war; not deaths are horrific (white), nor that the forces in Britain have stronger measures to them, but that the Brit a stage nearer the si where guerrilla arm the United Kingdom will the crudest methods of extremists in warmer co

The Provisionals might deny this possibility, but our no doubt that they were responsible for an ation with their own p internment, the use Army in Catholic, "deep interrogation" ment and incidents, lished or unsubstantiated brutality. By and large, tar extremists would similar view. But not Jenkins's restrictions ports and airfields of can allow the fact that the distance to trav the proxy bomber to rage, from the judicial to the political assass from the hijacked train gun at a pilot's head.

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Robert

Industrial development can weigh on the mind

Canadian Indians discussed by Roy Lewis on this page on October 18 is available from The Minority Rights Group, Benjamin Franklin House, 36 Craven Street, London, EC2N 5NG.

Michael Lespman continues his reports from Thailand:

Regular readers know that, when I travel abroad, I like to sample the local racing scene. Last weekend was a specially appropriate time since, had I not been sweating it out here in the east, I should have been warding off the cold by knocking back the brandy in the sponsor's tent at the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury.

The first notable fact about racing at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club is the size of the card—14 races every Saturday, with last week's 164 runners. And on Sunday the scene shifts to the city's other track, the Royal Turf Club, for another 14 chances to lose your shirt.

The Thais are enthusiastic gamblers, who clearly cannot get enough of it.

Yet if the card is large, the horses and jockeys are not. All Saturday's races, over a five and a half furlong grass course, were for Thai ponies of fourteen and half hands. The jockeys are tiny, some of them boys of eleven or twelve, who can make weights as low as six stone.

Racing is just one of the sports facilities offered by the Royal Bangkok Sports Club. Behind the entrance to the clubhouse—a pavilion-style building sandwiched between two modern concrete stands—a swimming pool and tennis courts. And in the middle of the course, members were playing golf as the horses galloped round them.

Inside the clubhouse was evidence of other activities. Announcements on the noticeboard referred to rugby, soccer, cricket, bridge, badminton, self-defence, and even juggling. The juggling board contained a stark warning: "All lady jugglers are reminded not to jog after dark". And jugglers of both sexes were warned to watch out for horses in training.

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The Times Diary

A day at the Bangkok races

The reading room provided a nice symbol of the club's diffuse activities. At one end members were reading the newspapers and magazines on the racks, while at the other, young women were selling tote tickets through the window.

The tote is the only form of betting. It is a sophisticated system from Australia, which registers bets on lighted noticeboards as they are made. Two or three times before the start the announcer gives, in Thai and English, the probable payout on each horse.

Suggestible

This there were several thousand of them in the three enclosures, an suggestible gamblers. Invariably, once a horse had been established favourite, it would attract an ever-increasing proportion of bets and its price would go down accordingly, though it did not necessarily win.

The catering, though less alcoholic than I should have enjoyed at Newbury, was excellent. Numerous bars, and a kitchen serving English (steak and kidney pie) or Thai (boon curry) food at your seat on the verandah. Numerous stalls in the street outside served rich-smelling Thai snacks and panakes.

Although the racecard is in Thai and English the past results section is only in Thai, so accurate form assessment is difficult. The commentary is

So I banked all my remaining assets on him, and he trotted in nicely, with the aid of some of the spectacularly ferocious whipping which is the fashion here. After I had collected my winnings my stamina ran out, and I left before the last two races.

The text of yesterday's road sign was so illegible in many copies of The Times that, in response to several readers' appeals to save their squinting eyesight, I am reprinting it. "Caution" it ran, "Every body: Take care of hind. It is the season Faun is born about this time. It may be case, if you approach him, his mother deer being full of maternal loves gives you a kick by her forehead."

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member of the Festival of Light.

Shackleton, who during the course of the hearing said that he was not a film-goer and had never, before seeing *Last Tango*, seen Marlon Brando perform on the screen, sat tense-faced in the court room occasionally clasping his hands and bowing his head and sometimes pressing the palm of his hand to his forehead.

It was a very sober affair—not a nudge or a wink in sight. Two women, waiting to be admitted to the public galleries at 1.20, did not even know that the case was going on. They were waiting for Mr Justice Lane to continue with the Soho syndicate trial, which they had been following for eight weeks. They thought Justice Lane was smashing.

The Handbook for Appointed Justices at Justices Office includes the following guidance for male visiting female establishments: "Women in prison are different in character from... They also tend to be quite a different e than that of wo men and boys. Visitors them much more 'chir prone to whistling or attention to themselves"

Comeback

Fred Craig, who publishes Political Co and other parliament political reference material involved in an electoral which he can find precedent. He resign Chichester district cot which was elected a servative last year, was preservative of work betw year's two general elec

The October partic election, however, cau postponement of the new election and the newly Conservative candidu drew 48 hours before of nominations. So Crai busy time is now a finds) for a couple of think's himself fighting election his own re cause.

"I am sure peop resigned from couns by-elections policy he says, but I do not anyone to whom it has quite like this." As a statistician he does n his going-and-coming prejudice his chances. he faces a close fight Liberal.

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دكتور من الأصل

مكتبة من الأصل

by Prudence Glynn

Fashion



Above: Camel cape with tie belt slipping through to the front, and side pockets, accentuated by top stitching. Style 10. Sizes 10-18. £69.50. Polo-neck ribbed sweater. Sizes 10-18. Assorted colours. Price £12.95. Camel beret, style J49. £9.50. Long knit scarf, £9.95. Sacha court shoes, £10.99.

Below: Slightly flared denim skirt with inverted pleat at front, teamed with a white crepe blouse under a knit jacket in navy/white/tan. Skirt, style 115. Sizes 10-18. Colours blue and green. Price £21.95. Shirt, Sizes 10-18. Assort. colours. Price £8. Gillet, style 115. Sizes 10-18. Other colour green/navy/white. £12.50. Over the outfit comes a navy wool coat with a detachable over cape, lined with navy/red/black check. Style 9. Sizes 10-18. Other colour, black with black/red/white lining. Price £79. Denim hat, style J54. Colours blue and green, £9.95. Bar shoes by Sacha, from all main branches, £11.99.



Right: blue "A" line knit skirt, style 117. Sizes 10-18. Price £19. Striped knit cardigan in a combination of navy/white/tan over a short sleeved "V" neck knit top with contrast collar. Cardigan, style 115. Sizes 10-18. Other colour combinations also for top, stuff/ice, blue/white, camel/black/red. £23. Top, style 116. Sizes 10-18. Price £19.75. Boots by Sacha. £35. Photographs by Robin Saidman.

All outfits are by Wetherall and available from their shops at Burlington Arcade, London, W.1, Manchester, hester, Birmingham, Norwich and Jersey.

The new Mersey sound

"Do you know, when I saw my first Courreges collection, it was one where he really did the work, I found tears in my eyes," says Monty Black, amazed himself yet again with the collection (only incidentally avoiding the reply to a question had put to him earlier about why he had chosen to use his entrepreneurial and technical skills on behalf of fashion rather than anything else). He began, in true, in the fashion world 14 and he "pulled himself" through the wholesale trade. But that world is so short of the commodities Mr Black amplifies, indeed when the fashion history of the sixties is recast it is going to read as a long moan about the sour

romance between design talent and industrial expertise, that his passion still comes as a surprise. Monty Black is turned on by tailoring, by the techniques of realizing what a creative designer wants to say in manufacturing terms. He has however avoided the trap which precisely that preoccupation has laid for a good many other highly proficient tailoring houses. He has seen the softness which is essential in fashion now, he has understood the fluidity of line which is required, and so his clothes have moved on, not stuck in the rigid put-together with-a-blowtorch groove which was the sixties look. More than anything, Mr

Black knows talent when he sees it. Although he says he is not particularly sympathetic to students because they have never been well enough trained in the realities of the fashion business, he has picked out some spectacular successes. Bill Gibb became famous at Baccarat, Tim Gardner, who made his debut from the RCA at The Times designer show in 1970 has produced some beautiful collections as house designer there, Hylan Booker has many admirers, John Bates has done collections. In fact Lewis and Black, which is the basic name of Mr Black's business has consistently put high quality processes behind high quality fashion thinking. Baccarat clothes, he stresses, are engineered by modern machines, not laboriously tailored.

Now there is a new baby in the family, or perhaps in view of the age of the subject and the need for rejuvenation rather than upbringing it would be truer to say a new granny in the family. This is Wetherall, bought a year ago by Lewis and Black with a one third share going to Sir Hugh Fraser's SUITS. Wetherall, who were doing the separates look 30 years ago but not, alas, four years ago when it might have saved their fading image, consists of 130 shops, 100 in this country, nine in Canada within Hudson Bay shops, five in Holland with a sixth opening in Amsterdam soon. Oslo, Copenhagen and other main cities. The business cost £1m, but the Regent Street premises fetched £200,000. "I didn't intend to sell them but the offer I got was just not refusible", says Mr Black. There was a seemingly inexhaustible supply of that pale blue and milk chocolate brown wool one associates with Wetherall, a fond of loyal staff all over the country and the last of those familiar window props the budgetisers called Joey, has only just turned his little claws heavenwards at the age of 27. According to the marvellously irreverent Tom Ellery, who is doing the shop displays and acting as a courier for journalists to Liverpool on the side, Joey was doing star appearances all over the country. The business also included a factory in Liverpool, and a factory in the Isle of Man, with the potential to make just about every item of clothing between them. Originally, Mr Black had

thought that the operation could be run from London, leaving much of the original management in situ, but it very soon turned out that the two generations of Wetherall simply did not understand one another. So Mr and Mrs Black bought a house in Cheshire and now when you go to Liverpool it is such a hive of talent that one has to look out of the window to the spiky crown of the cathedral, or catch a glimpse of the amazing Liver bird atop his globe to remember where you are. Having a particularly enjoyable relationship with the fashion department at Liverpool Polytechnic I had been hopeful that connexions might be established between Wetherall and the students, because I felt Monty Black's forceful personality and realistic attitude, plus the presence in their very midst of one of our only top-quality manufacturers with design appreciation, could only do everyone good. So I was even more pleased to find that Wetherall have hired Stephanie Dodds, an ex-student.

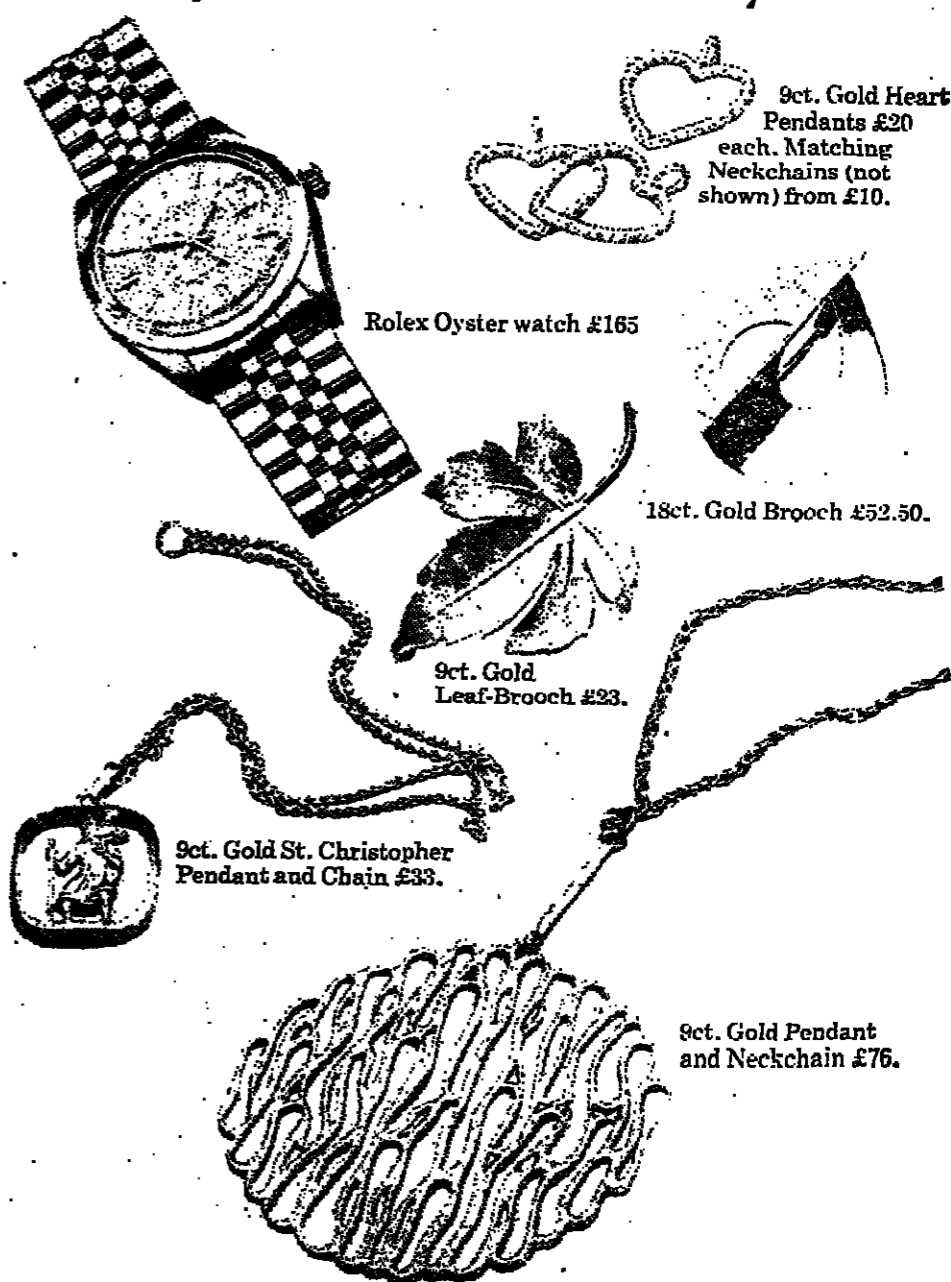
Other members of the Wetherall team have also sped up to Hope Street, including Colin Sparks, the very able high fashion buyer from Selfridges who is now in the organization. His title is "chief retail buying executive" and it will be his job to stock each and every one of the Wetherall shops with what he thinks fit and with merchandise not necessarily made within the organization. Thus Monty Black sees Colin Sparks as "a catalyst, because he will be able to buy for price and quality anywhere he wants and it is up to our designers and factories to provide what he wants." Eventually there will be a wholesale division of Wetherall too, which will sell to competitive stores. To design the collection which is going to have to meet all these demands Mr Black has very sensibly hired himself Brian Godbold, one of the most professional and elegant of sportswear designers, and I think that the clothes on the page today would prove my point. The mechanics of transformation, both in people and businesses, always fascinate me, so I was particularly keen to know what were the plans for the rejuvenation of Wetherall. Two stores await him who tries to breath new life into an old

body, the first being breathing so hard that you explode the whole thing and have to begin all over again with a rebuilding programme, the second being breathing so slowly for fear of alarming the traditional companions of the old party that she expires anyway from apathy. Colin Sparks is quite sure that the danger is the second square "protecting a customer which doesn't exist". A lot of changes are being made, and monitored. Manchester has had the Tom Ellery display treatment, which will include abstract mannequins "hardly anyone can afford enough wigs and shoes and gloves and makeup and everything to keep the figures looking up to date", says Ellery. Ideally, he would like what artists call lay figures, jointed like Action Man, but they cannot be bought satisfactorily in England. So far in Manchester, "We haven't increased sales, but we're 10 times up on football" and when the new merchandise goes in Mr Black is confident that sales will match the increase in spectators.

Reactions to the new clothes that are around has been gratifying. "A lot of women simply had never worn anything that fitted them before", says Ellery, "they just used to come in an old baggy suit and card and jam on something to cover them up, like a sofa. Now they are seeing how nice well cut things are." The prices are good for the quality they represent. Wetherall had been pursuing what Mr Black regards as the all too frequent fault in buying, trying to match last year's selling prices in a year of high inflation and sacrificing quality of cloth on the way. I liked the way Wetherall logo stitched on the front hem, outside, of everything, turning that dear old name, which after all should be a selling plus, into the most chic, discreet, symbol. I also particularly liked the way Brian Godbold has worked with the famous double-face Wetherall cloths and abandoning the irrelevant pretence that they should be reversible, has made a virtue of both sides of the fabric with lovely inside finishes and none of that old gym-slip girdle braid.

The major problem which remains is not of selling, but of making. "We could sell twice as much if we could get the labour to make it", sighs Monty Black. If it is any consolation Norman Harnell is having just the same problem.

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\$400m Siberian gas deal agreed by Russia, Japan and US groups

Paris, Nov 25.—Russia, Japan and two American groups, El Paso Company and Occidental Petroleum, have come to a 30m agreement for exploitation of natural gas reserves in Siberia. Mr Nikolai Ossipov, the Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, described the agreement as the biggest of its kind in the world. Under the accord the Japanese-Export-Import Bank has agreed to supply \$100m credit to the USSR, which itself will be spending an estimated \$400m on exploration. This is on condition that the United States Export-Import Bank also provides the same amount of credit, a condition which is still subject to final approval by the United States Congress. Natural gas reserves in the Khatanga area of Siberia are estimated to be at least 1,000,000 billion cubic metres and could be as much as 13,000,000 billion cubic metres, Mr Ossipov said. Once these reserves are confirmed further agreements are expected to be signed for sale of the gas to America and Japan. Mr Armand Hammer, chairman of Occidental Petroleum, said: "Terms for sale of the gas have yet to be settled but would involve shipping about 20,000 million cubic metres annually over 25 years to these two countries, with the amount divided equally between Japan and the United States. El Paso would take 75 per cent of the American share and Occidental 25 per cent. The Occidental share could be increased to 33.3 per cent if total reserves were greater than the minimum forecasts, he said. Completion of the exploration agreements came after two weeks of talks in Paris among Soviet, Japanese and United States representatives. A group of American private banks was also expected to participate in financing the exploration work, Mr Hammer said. He gave no details. Occidental has already been involved in several multi-million dollar deals covering exploitation of nickel and phosphate deposits and development of a trade centre.—Reuter.

Banking doubts add to slide in shares

Share prices continued to slide in London yesterday on both general economic fears and also renewed doubts regarding the secondary banking sector. The collapse of Triumph Investment Trust, whose shares were suspended before trading began, brought widespread nervousness in the banking sector. Industrial shares were also marked down sharply at first as the City braced itself for trading reports from some major companies later this week. But selling was very light, and a significant, if technical, recovery was staged in late dealing. The FT index which touched 1615 at one time, closed at 1645, a net loss of 3.9. The Times index lost 2.06 to 63.96. Major banks steadied from early losses, helped by press reports that the authorities would continue to give help on with the Triumph collapse in secondary banking losses. But, dictating that not all would be rescued, there were widespread falls in "fringe" bank shares. Shares in ICL, which reports third quarter results on Thursday, fell to 115p initially but steadied later to finish unchanged at 122p. BLMC shares, touched a new low of 61p before closing a net 4p down at 7p.

Government timing error foiled issue by AT&T

New York, Nov 25.—A basic misunderstanding was involved in the chain of events culminating in American Telephone & Telegraph Co's astonishing withdrawal of its record \$600m (about £250m) securities offering last week. Some top Justice Department officials mistakenly believed the sale already had been completed when they filed sweeping anti-trust charges against the telecommunications giant last Wednesday. In fact the offering would not have ended until Tuesday, when investors would have paid for their purchases and underwriters would have delivered \$600m to A T & T. Now of course none of that money will change hands. A T & T decided early on Friday to cancel its issue of new 8 1/2 per cent notes and 8 1/2 per cent debentures because of unsettled market conditions resulting from the anti-trust suit. In fact the offering would have sufficient time to consider fully this new development", Mr Charles L. Brown, the company's executive vice-president stated. After the withdrawal of the A T & T offering, the Justice Department insisted that it could not have delayed filing the anti-trust suit even if all its officials had been aware that the offering was still in progress. It was the filing of the suit which would have exposed the department itself to criminal and civil prosecution. Filing took place when it did because "the investigation had been completed, the case had been prepared and the suit had been approved" by Mr William B. Saxie, the Attorney General, a department spokesman pointed out. Nevertheless, several officials conceded they had been surprised when they learnt on Thursday that the offering had been put in jeopardy because of the anti-trust suit. "We thought the sale had been completed", they contended. However, such knowledge would have been irrelevant as far as filing the suit went. "The confusion undoubtedly arose from earlier reports of heavy investment demand in the new notes and debentures, which represented the largest public sale yet made by a utility. Furthermore, both securities offerings were being marketed on the New York Stock Exchange, although transactions were on a conditional when-issued basis. Both AT & T and its chief underwriter, Salomon Brothers, scrambled frantically but unsuccessfully in the immediate aftermath of the Justice Department suit to prevent the offering from being scuttled. Their lawyers flew to Washington on Thursday in an effort to gain Securities and Exchange Commission approval of the changes in the official offering prospectus necessitated by the anti-trust action.—AP-Dow Jones. No compromise: Mr John D. Debutts, chairman of the AT & T Co, said there was no chance of an negotiated settlement of the offer. He said the company would prefer to break up the world's largest corporation. "Any compromise now would adversely affect the consumer", Mr Debutts said in a television interview. "We have more competition today than we had in the 1949 anti-trust suit that was settled by a consent decree in 1955." He denied that AT & T had ever violated anti-trust laws and argued that the Justice Department's suit was an attempt to "trouble" the firm. Western Electric Co would result in higher rates and reduced service to the public.—Reuter.

British Leyland hit by lay-off pay claim as Coventry strike ends

By R. W. Shakespeare. Yesterday the control room staff agreed to return to work so that fresh negotiations on their claim could begin. Then came the demands from the shopfloor workers, most of whom had been losing wages of more than £50 a week during the shutdown. British Leyland's problem is that to concede to this demand would put its whole lay-off pay strategy at risk. Although all British Leyland car workers have their earnings protected by extensive lay-off pay guarantees, these agreements are automatically suspended if workers are sent home because of a dispute and militant action within their plants. Fresh talks were also started yesterday between management and union representatives about a manning dispute in the Triumph plant in Liverpool. Men from the plant, who had been on strike for two weeks, agreed to resume work pending the outcome of the talks. In Coventry Chrysler faces the threat of a strike from tonight by millwrights in its car and engine plant. They are demanding parity with toolroom workers who recently won an increase in breaks for overtime working. The Chrysler management has rejected the claim on the grounds that while toolroom workers negotiate their wages independently, the millwrights are covered by a general wage agreement which has six months to run. A strike by millwrights would normally quickly affect car production, but in this instance shop stewards representing other shopfloor workers have told the company that they do not support the millwright's claim and will raise no objection to work normally done by millwrights being carried out by management staff. This would enable production to continue.

Banks say Tunnel can still realize a profit

By Peter Hill. Banks involved in financing the Channel Tunnel project claimed last night that raising the necessary funds would not prove difficult, and affirmed that the project still held out promise of profit. In a detailed statement the five banks involved stated: "There is no basis for believing that the Channel Tunnel project, which was shown to be profitable in the June 1973 studies carried out by independent experts, has ceased to be profitable." However, the fact that the banks involved—Morgan Grenfell, Robert Fleming, Hill Samuel, Kleinwort Benson and S. G. Warburg—felt it necessary to issue a statement is indicative of the anxiety now being voiced about the project. Last night's rebuttal arose directly from what the banks described as a "speculative article" in the Sunday Times. The Times yesterday which suggested that the entire project in its present form was at the final stages of collapse. Officially the Government appears to be rejecting its opposition until the Channel Tunnel Committee completes its report, but the committee's findings are not expected before next spring. In their statement the banks said there was no doubt that the country faced a difficult time over the next year or so, but they pointed out that the tunnel was not due to open until 1980—by which time it was expected that the background ground conditions will have improved fundamentally. "If all long-term projects were to be postponed or cancelled because of short-term conditions, it was difficult to believe that any such projects would ever be achieved, said the statement. On the particularly sensitive issue of the financial arrangements, which the banks are responsible for arranging at the request of the British Government, they said: "It is possible that 90 per cent of the cost of the Anglo-French project was to be financed through Government guaranteed loans. "We believe that there will be no difficulty in issuing these loans for the requisite amounts as and when these amounts have to be raised. So far as equity money is concerned, it is true that financial conditions are difficult at present, but even in these difficult conditions it has never been possible for other companies to raise substantial equity money", the statement said. The banks said there was no requirement for the project to raise any more equity funds until the middle of 1977, and added that the "latitude" was a deliberate feature of the financing scheme which had been agreed with the Governments. It had been recognized, the statement continued, that during the course of such a long project there would inevitably be periods when it would be undesirable to attempt an equity issue because of adverse Stock Market conditions. The banks also rebutted suggestions that the huge growth in traffic forecast for the tunnel had become a mirage in present circumstances. They admitted, however, that during the difficult period of the next year or two there might well be a "temporary slowing down in traffic growth". But, they said it was expected that this would be offset so far as the tunnel was concerned by an increase in through rail traffic.

Publishers' agreements attacked

Continued from page 1. would be published in the United States. These agreements effectively produce exclusive sales territories for the publishers and hence competition is non-existent. The Department of Justice clearly maintains that these agreements are illegal and against the public interest. The American action without doubt will force the British authorities to consider the situation and possibly take independent action against British publishers. The defendants named in the suit are all incorporated companies in the United States. The defendants are Macmillan Inc of New York City, Penguin Books Inc, of Baltimore, Oxford University Press Inc of New York City, Bantam Books, Columbia Broadcasting System, Dell Publishing, Doubleday, Harper and Row, McGraw-Hill, Random House, Simon and Schuster, the Viking Press, John Wiley, the Times Mirror Company of Los Angeles, Addison-Wesley, Grosser and Dunlap, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Houghton Mifflin, Intext, Litton Educational Publishing and Prentice-Hall. The suit states that in all the charges made the co-plaintiffs are not just the Publishers Association, but also the individual members of the association. These are not named individually. But this point is made clearly in a special section in the Justice Department's brief filed with the court today. Macmillan Inc stated in an early response to the action to deny that the suit will have "no material adverse effect upon the business or financial position" of the company.

BP accepts £17.4m Libya compensation

By Roger Vielvoys Energy Correspondent. British Petroleum is to receive £17.4m compensation for the nationalization of its Sarir oilfield by the Libyan Government in December 1971. After three years of negotiation, a rigorous legal campaign against purchasers of oil cargoes from the Sarir output, BP has accepted a sum that is well below its original claim for compensation. Immediately after the nationalization, BP valued its half share in the Sarir field at £250m, the other half was held by American oil millionaire Mr. Nelson Bunker Hunt who later also had his share nationalized. BP and the Libyans had earlier agreed on a compensation figure of £62.4m but after the Sarir field was taken over by the Libyan government claims for taxes, royalties and other amounts due from BP before the nationalization. BP said yesterday that on receipt of this payment it had undertaken among other things to discontinue its arbitration proceedings against Libya and to make a further announcement about its position on oil produced from the Sarir field. The tracking of cargoes of Sarir crude and product refined from Sarir crude has resulted in 12 pending court actions in Europe, the United States and Brazil. Sarir is one of the largest oilfields producing 400,000 barrels of oil a day. The estimated value of oilfield installations, pipeline to Tobruk and terminal facilities was between £80m and £100m.

Union move in shipyard stoppage

By Our Northern Industrial Correspondent. Fresh attempts will be made today to try to resolve the pay dispute which has led to a six-week-long strike by workers at the Cammell Laird shipyard on Merseyside. Officials of the Merseyside District Committee of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions will meet shop stewards representing the 2,300 workers from the yard today to discuss the terms of a deal giving skilled workers a minimum basic rate of £50 for a 40-hour week. The electricians claimed that they should have been consulted and offered more overtime before new men were taken on. Vickers has two other pay problems to face. First, it seems likely that the company will now have to concede pay increases of between £3 and £10 a week to most of the 7,000 white-collar workers in the Barrow shipyard and engineering complex. Negotiations with their union representatives are to begin following the recent settlement with the manual workers who got increases of this order. The white-collar workers are unlikely to settle for less. Secondly, boiler-makers at the shipyard have yet to agree on their new pay rates. They are claiming more than the new skilled rate of £50 so as to preserve their traditional differential. Their claim has been referred to a meeting of the central conference of the shipbuilding industry to be held on December 5. Failure to reach a settlement there could mean more trouble for Vickers, which recently had 7,000 workers idle for a two-week long dispute over the new manual workers' pay deal.

City awaits Triumph aftermath

By Our Banking Correspondent. Speculation beset the City yesterday about what further moves the Bank of England might adopt towards secondary banks in the wake of the collapse of the Investment Trust. Considerable uncertainty has been generated by the decision to appoint a receiver at Triumph, centring upon whether it signifies a tougher attitude to other secondary banks and possibly heralding further collapses. Behind these questions were rumours that Lloyds Bank, Triumph's main bank, was involved in a bitter row with the Bank of England over the handling of the Triumph affair. This is thought to revolve around the ultimate rejection of a scheme to sell Triumph to Kuwaiti interests. Patrick Tisdall writes: The secondary banking crisis has absorbed a large part of the clearing banks' capability to lend to industry at a time when it is most needed, says Lord Paolucci, chairman of the South East Economic Planning Council, in letters to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, five other ministers, the Confederation of British Industry and the TUC. The letters contain a plea to the Government for action to remove the constraints which are preventing the economic potential of the region from being realized. The council is very concerned about "the low level of business confidence in the region". This it attributes to anxieties about profits and the general climate of uncertainty about the Government's future policies. Specific points on which it asks for urgent action include the provision of special help to firms concentrating on exports. Financial Editor, page 23

Chicago bank insists lower prime rate trend

By Our US Economics Correspondent. Washington, Nov 25. A surprising step was taken yesterday by the First National City of Chicago, by maintaining its prime lending rate unchanged. The bank has held its rate at 12 1/2 per cent over recent weeks in spite of its prime rate down from a record high level of 12 1/2 per cent, but today it announced that it is not following the City to 10 per cent and that it is holding firm at 10 1/2 per cent. Robert Abbott, deputy chairman of the bank, said this decision was taken because the immediate short-term outlook interest rates had become fear after some increases at end of last week. He said the rate of decline from 12 1/2 per cent on October 7 had been very sharp and a pause in order. Many banks have been more cautious in recent weeks than Chicago and Citibank and conservative prime rates at larger banks now range in 10 to 10 1/2 per cent to 10 3/4 per cent. Mr Abbott stressed, however, he still believed the general trend of rates was downward and prime rate would line further.

US assesses stake in petrodollar facility

From Frank Vogel Washington, Nov 25. America's stake in a new petrodollar recycling facility for major industrial nations should be between 25 and 30 per cent, the administration contends. The new facility, with total funding of some \$25,000m, was proposed some days ago by Dr Henry Kissinger, the Secretary of State. Today, Mr William Simon, Secretary of the Treasury, announced that the administration envisaged that all decisions regarding financial support from the fund should be made on a weighted vote of participants, and that what was wanted by the United States should be about 25 to 30 per cent—more than \$6,500m. Mr Simon declared in the testimony before the joint economic committee, that a basic concept in the scheme was that what was wanted by the facility provides, all members should share the credit risk on the basis of their participation. The United States also favours the creation of a special high level board to supervise the activities of the new facility. This board would be composed of senior officials from the participating countries and would control all the facility's operations and policies. "The board would reach judgments on requests for assistance from the facility on the basis of need, alternative sources of financing, basic economic policies, and actions to reduce dependence on OPEC oil imports." Mr Simon added that the administration believed there were a number of advantages in having countries provide the fund with direct loans, rather than guarantees. "The loan route is more efficient, it is cheaper and it can be activated more quickly in case of emergency." Until now American officials have stressed that the facility would borrow only from governments, but Mr Simon indicated today that it would be quite acceptable for individual countries to give guarantees to the facility to enable it to borrow directly in the markets. Finally, he noted that the administration considered that the American participation in the new facility could best be arranged under the Exchange Stabilization Fund.

Bonn savings spree

West German banks and other savings institutions took in DM2,300m—more than £400m or £66 caput—in October. This was double the amount for the preceding month. How the markets moved. Rises: Anglo Am Cp 8p to 37 1/2p, Angliwest 2p to 15p, Broken Hill 8p to 46 1/2p, Cons Old Filds 3p to 23 1/2p, Deasid 2p to 15p, Fedens 1p to 5p, Hampton Gold 5p to 60p. Falls: Ass Port Count 6p to 70p, Ad Intl 8p to 43p, Boot 6p to 100p, Cons Am Tob 5p to 25p, Cons Patens 5p to 25p, GEC 4p to 48p, LANC Fox 5p to 15p. Int Blids: Lombe 5p to 43 1/2p, Lard & Gen 3p to 33p, Plessey 1p to 46p, Steep Rock 5p to 65p, Union Corp 5p to 48p, Western Areas 5p to 58p. Mansion Fin 5p to 20p, Slater Walker 4p to 38p, Tilling T 4 1/2p to 24 1/2p, Utd Dom Tst 3p to 12p, Unilever 4p to 15 1/2p, Vickers 2p to 7 1/2p, Wagon Fin 4p to 19p. Sterling rose 15 points to \$2,322.0. The effective devaluation "rate was 20.7 per cent. Gold advanced \$2 to \$184.25. SDR-\$ was 1.206360 while SDR-£ was 0.31779. Commodities: December sugar highest at 162 while the London daily price was cut £20 to £610. Coffee gained between £3.50 and £5 while cocoa lost between £3 and £12.50. Copper fell £10.50 after being £17 lower and tin dropped £60. LME silver rose 7.85p. Reuters index was 9.9 down at 1,219.5. Reports pages 24 and 25. Equities remained weak. Gilt-edged securities moved higher.

City awaits Triumph aftermath

By Our Banking Correspondent. Speculation beset the City yesterday about what further moves the Bank of England might adopt towards secondary banks in the wake of the collapse of the Investment Trust. Considerable uncertainty has been generated by the decision to appoint a receiver at Triumph, centring upon whether it signifies a tougher attitude to other secondary banks and possibly heralding further collapses. Behind these questions were rumours that Lloyds Bank, Triumph's main bank, was involved in a bitter row with the Bank of England over the handling of the Triumph affair. This is thought to revolve around the ultimate rejection of a scheme to sell Triumph to Kuwaiti interests. Patrick Tisdall writes: The secondary banking crisis has absorbed a large part of the clearing banks' capability to lend to industry at a time when it is most needed, says Lord Paolucci, chairman of the South East Economic Planning Council, in letters to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, five other ministers, the Confederation of British Industry and the TUC. The letters contain a plea to the Government for action to remove the constraints which are preventing the economic potential of the region from being realized. The council is very concerned about "the low level of business confidence in the region". This it attributes to anxieties about profits and the general climate of uncertainty about the Government's future policies. Specific points on which it asks for urgent action include the provision of special help to firms concentrating on exports. Financial Editor, page 23

Aircraft industry heading for £600m exports

By Arthur Reed. Britain's aircraft industry is now confident of reaching a record export total of £600m this year. This encouraging trend was confirmed yesterday by the publication by the Society of British Aerospace Companies of the figures for the first nine months of the year which showed exports were worth £463.5m. During the same period of 1973, the total was £87m less. Exports in September were worth £63.2m, which was £1.27m above the previous monthly record, established in July. The Board announce unaudited profits for the six months ended 30th June, 1974. An interim dividend of 0.228p per ordinary share will be paid on 17th December, 1974, including the Tax Credit this dividend is equivalent to 0.337p per share (1973: 0.30p).

IP wants ban on hoarding Krugerrands

Melvyn Westlake. The International Private Bank has reported to be buying Krugerrand in sizable quantities. Mr Wrigglesworth, who is also secretary of the Labour Economic Finance and Taxation Association, wants the Chancellor to stop the "rapid increase in the amount of investment going into gold coins", and "the hoarding of South African Krugerrands". He argues that such investment is totally non-productive and "does nothing but divert precious investment away from sectors of the economy where it is desperately needed".

Wall Street weakens on rates shock

New York, Nov 25.—Wall Street stock prices yesterday failed to maintain an opening advance and were soon pointing downwards as other banks to follow Citibank's lead and cut prime interest rates to 10 per cent. By 1 pm, New York time the Dow Jones Industrial Average was 5.40 lower at 609.90. The New York Stock Exchange said its member firms reported an aggregate pre-tax loss of \$34.1m (£14.8m) in the third quarter of 1974 and a deficit of \$91.8m in the first nine months.

US coal mines agreement 'in principle'

Washington, Nov 25.—Mr William E. Simon, the United States Treasury Secretary, announced that negotiators for miners and the coal industry had reached a new agreement on Sunday night. Mr Simon described it as an agreement in principle—an improvement in the package. He declined to discuss details. The announcement was made after Mr Simon and Mr W. J. Urvy, Jr, the Ford Administration's top labour "trouble-shooter", met the bargainers for the coal industry and the striking miners.

Britain and East Germany open trade talks today

Aspects for technical and industrial cooperation between United Kingdom and East Germany are the main topics for discussion at the first meeting of the UK-German Democratic Republic joint commission on trade, which begins in London today and ends on Friday. Mr John Cairns, Under Secretary at the Department of Trade, Herr A. Schonherr, director in the East German Ministry of Foreign Trade will their respective delegations. The commission, set up in September last year will meet daily.

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On other pages

Business appointments 24, Appointments vacant 26, 27, Financial news 24, 25, Letters 22, Diary 23, Wall Street 25, Market reports 26, Share prices 20, Bank Base Rates Table 25, Company Meeting Reports: Safeguard Industrial Investments 23, The Second Scottish Investment Trust Company 24, Interim Statements: James Cropper & Co 24, The West Bromwich Spring Co 21

THE POUND

Table with exchange rates for various currencies including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, S. Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, US, Yugoslavia, and Dur.

INTERIM STATEMENT

Table for The West Bromwich Spring Co. Ltd. showing Sales, Profit before Tax, Estimated Corporation Tax, Ordinary Dividend, and Earnings per share for 30th June 1974, 30th June 1973, and Year to 31st December 1973.

Japanese growth rate in reverse

Tokyo, Nov 25.—Japan's economy is likely to show a negative growth rate of 1.6 per cent during the current fiscal year ending next March, sources close to the Economic Planning Agency report.

This will be Japan's first minus growth level since the end of the Second World War and compares with a positive advance of 5.5 per cent in the last fiscal year.

The estimate was made on the basis of the supplementary national budget.

The sources said the new estimate represented a substantial downward revision of the Japanese Government's January estimate of a positive growth.

The country's Economic Research Centre predicted that an 8 per cent growth could be expected in the next fiscal year. It postulated an earthy resumption of private equipment investment and residential construction.—Reuter.

Plans for nuclear steelmaking ready tomorrow

Decisions on the main lines of development on nuclear steelmaking over the next few years are expected to be announced tomorrow after a meeting of the British Nuclear Energy Society.

Tomorrow's discussion follows meetings of the European nuclear steelmaking club formed last year. The steel industry throughout the world wants to see the development of nuclear steelmaking techniques progressed more rapidly because of continuing uncertainty over price and availability of conventional energy supplies.

This was reflected last month at the annual conference of the International Iron and Steel Institute when its members announced their agreement to coordinate and pool their resources in research and development.

NEDO condemns retail pay levels

By Edward Towse
A new "realistic" minimum wage level for workers in the United Kingdom retail industry, who are among the lowest paid in the country, is called for today by the National Economic Development Office.

Taking the unusual step of examining an industry's wage rates, the office concludes that wages councils have been ineffective in improving pay rates.

It points out that significant numbers of workers were paid below the legal minimum wage when the Commission on Industrial Relations surveyed the retail sector last year.

In a major report on manpower and pay in the industry, it estimates that in April last year 132,000 adult men working full-time in retailing were earning less than 60p an hour and 489,000 women working full-

time were being paid less than 55p an hour. Consequently, although 6 per cent of the country's adult workforce were employed in retailing, they accounted for 15 per cent of low paid employees.

As a result, the office recommends that retailing wages councils be reviewed, wage structures be rationalized and a minimum wage be agreed based on the circumstances of a man with a family.

But the report adds that raising the entire pay structure in relation to other industries would lead to substantially increased costs and would have to be linked to better staff utilization and improved job content. This would almost certainly mean a reduction in the number of jobs and retail outlets.

NEDO describes retailing as comparing unfavourably with

almost every other sector of the economy as far as labour turnover and stability are concerned.

It says that some employers take on young people to reduce payroll costs and this leads to high turnover. This is also caused by the large number of part-time workers—who account for a third of the retailing labour force—and by the high proportion of women workers.

The office says that for the first time it has compiled figures showing the percentage of low paid workers employed in each service and industrial sector in Britain.

These reveal that the catering trade is the lowest paid with 49 per cent of its adult male workers earning less than 60p an hour. In retail distribution the figure is 28 per cent, in motor vehicle distribution and repair 29 per cent, and medical and dental services 25 per cent.

Roche says ministry's price order was unfair

By Malcolm Brown
Hoffmann-La Roche, the Swiss-based international drugs group, alleged in the High Court yesterday that the Secretary of State for Industry had acted "unfairly, partially and unjustly" in the matter of the price order last year against the tranquilizers Librium and Valium.

The allegation was made on the first day of striking-out proceedings connected with the action in which Roche is suing the Secretary of State, and Sir Ashton Ruskell, representing the Monopolies Commission.

Striking out is the legal procedure used by the defendant in an attempt to nullify part or all of the statement of claim made against it.

In an amendment yesterday to its original statement of claim, Hoffmann-La Roche said that the reference of the drugs to the Monopolies Commission had been made by the Secretary of State on the complaint and at the instigation of the Department of Health and Social Security.

The Department's purpose, as the Secretary of State knew, was to procure reductions in the prices it had to pay for the drugs. He knew the DHSS would be the principal beneficiary.

The duty of the Secretary of State, in considering the report and deciding whether to exercise his statutory powers—and if so how and to what extent—was to act fairly, impartially and judicially as between the DHSS and the plaintiffs.

In breach of this duty he had acted unfairly, partially and unjustly.

The amendment also states other reasons in support of its claim that the Secretary of State breached his duty.

The proceedings, which are being heard before Mr Justice Whitford, continue.

Fawley setback for Esso

By Peter Hill
Plans by Esso Chemical to spend more than £100m in an expansion of its chemicals complex at Fawley, near Southampton, are being held back by a lack of development on the site by companies engaged in "downstream" chemical processes.

Over the past three years Esso Chemical has been inviting companies involved in downstream processes to establish manufacturing plants on Esso's land at Fawley. The idea is that

such companies should lease sites and take feedstock from the Esso complex, where already the group has invested between £45m-£50m.

But a spokesman for Esso said yesterday that while Esso had been involved in discussions with a number of companies, these potential customers had decided for a variety of reasons not to take up the option.

"We are however still talking to some potential customers. We have not yet given up hope altogether," the spokesman said.

Corporation tax in Guernsey doubled to £600

Motorists, smokers and some 1,000 corporation tax companies—not registered in the island but not trading locally—are to bear the brunt of tax and duty changes announced in Guernsey's budget yesterday.

As from January 1 corporation tax is to double from £300 to £600 a year a company and motor vehicle tax, which is based on weight, will rise by 66 per cent.

From today a petrol duty rise of 2p a gallon is expected to increase the retail price of top grade petrol to 37p a gallon. New duties on cigarettes, cigars and tobacco will increase the price of 20 king size cigarettes by at least 3p to 21p.

The island's advisory and finance committee has, however, proposed that the standard rate of local income tax remains at 20p in the pound, while improved income tax allowances for lower-paid and middle-income workers are introduced, saving them up to £663,000 next year.

Expert study of chemicals field

A study on the likely pattern of innovation in the chemical industry in coming decades was announced last night by the Society of Chemical Industry.

Dr Leslie Streetfield, president, said it was a particularly opportune time because of new opportunities indicated by developments in basic science. The study will be undertaken by Mr John Maddox. The report will be ready next year.

Dutch office lettings up

In spite of what is described as a "dramatic over-supply" in Amsterdam, the Dutch office market is holding up remarkably well, according to a report issued by Jones Lang Wootton.

In Holland generally, the firm has so far this year recorded an increase of 50 per cent in lettings over the 1973 figure, and in The Hague there seems little doubt that there will be an office shortage in 1975.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cash flow and charges on overdue accounts

From Mr N. H. W. Ward
Sir, In the present economic circumstances companies of all sizes are faced with severe cash flow problems.

This association is particularly concerned with the effect this has upon manufacturers, their sub-contractors, suppliers and installers, many of whom would claim only to be in the small to medium-sized company bracket and, consequently, more vulnerable.

Difficult to obtain, expensive money has given rise to the taking of longer and longer credit from the manufacturer as a means of financing business. The manufacturers' future ability to become a defendant upon his ability to obtain and pay for high interest bearing short-term capital.

As it is not general practice in this country to charge interest on overdue accounts, and as price restrictions and market pressures mitigate against total recovery of financial costs, the additional burden must result in decreased profitability, restriction on capital investment and growth.

It can be argued that tightness of credit control over the way to improve cash flow, under present trading conditions, it may not be in a company's best interests to do so. Furthermore, in industries such as those covered by our membership, the problems created and expense incurred in trying to maintain a satisfactory credit control system are compounded by the number of links in the chain between manufacturer and end-user.

In the view of this association, two positive steps could be taken which would immediately

Nonsensical tax anomaly for farmers

From Mr M. D. Birchall
Sir, One anomaly of the present tax situation seems to have escaped comment in the current debate—the ludicrous effect of those whose stock is large "livestock"—the farmers.

Consider some simplified figures, for two roughly similar years, in both of which 10 per cent "genuine" profit is being made; in the first year, stock values rise by 20 per cent—

Sales proceeds	110.0
Closing inventory	60.0
less Costs	100.00
opening inventory	50.00
leaving a profit of	£ 20.0

(on which tax payable)

Of this £20.00 only a half "available" profit: the other half is an increase of wealth. It is only a profit if it is so. Nonetheless, it is taxed whether or not it is sold.

However, in the second year stock values fall back to what they were at first, so we get

Sales proceeds	110.0
Closing inventory	50.0
less Costs	100.00
opening inventory	60.00
leaving a profit of	NI

This appears to show the farmer who maintains a large stock is worse off with stock values go up—although national wealth has increased whereas he is better off with stock values go down, because his tax liability has been moved: which is a nonsense. The policy is worse off with stock values go up—although national wealth has increased whereas he is better off with stock values go down, because his tax liability has been moved: which is a nonsense.

Yours faithfully,
M. D. BIRCHALL,
Mullens & Co.,
15 Moorgate,
EC2R 6AN.

State energy conservation

From Mr M. V. Melling
Sir, Further to the letter from Mr D. M. Clay (November 21) in which he states that an example in energy conservation is urgently required on the part of both central and local government, by reducing heating consumption and economies in the use of street lighting, I am writing to give my wholehearted support to these proposals.

For example, Belgium is reported as expecting to achieve an annual saving of some £900,000 from recent measures introduced to effect economies in motorway lighting.

I would also suggest the introduction of a campaign to persuade the occupants of large buildings, offices, shops and hotels to make a cut of, say, 5 to 10 per cent in their consumption of heating oil. Many of these buildings—particularly in London—are grossly overheated, and as their usage of fuel is of considerable magnitude, any worthwhile saving could be achieved by this means.

The recent savage increase in VAT on petrol is to be deplored as a highly inflationary, political

'Fined' for saving society money!

From Mr D. McClintock
Sir, Not long ago, when I was one of my colleagues about 60, our business brought to an end. Some of them, fairly enough, then unemployment benefits and insurance card stamped, so the State many hundred pounds.

My wife and I have a sum of investment income I became self-employed. I no benefit and have the expense of having to stamp card—£144 a year at present. Now in addition Chancellor demands we purchase on our income, and the stamp will lose us hundreds of pounds a year.

The effect is the same hefty fine for some considerable offence—that of not a burden to the State? Logic allows such a vast difference between two sets of similarly embarrassed by loss of their jobs?

Yours truly,
D. MCCLINTOCK,
Bracken Hill,
Platt, Kent, TN15 8JH.

Wasteful use of subsidised food

From Mr J. B. Barton
Sir, In his Budget speech the Chancellor announced he would mount a national campaign against waste, starting with energy.

He said: "It is impossible to justify a policy which actively encourages oil imports to produce electricity at uneconomic prices. . . Fuel bulks large in old age pensioners' budgets. But the best way to help pensioners is to increase pensions, not to sell fuel to everybody far below its cost."

If this argument is valid for the pricing of electricity which fuels our economy, surely it is equally valid for the pricing of food which fuels the human body.

Will Mr Hesley ask Mrs Williams to reconsider the justification for subsidizing bread made from imported wheat—and indeed all other food subsidies which through uneconomic pricing inevitably result in wasteful use.

J. B. BARTON,
Tonbridge, Kent.

Profits, stock appreciation and inflation

From Mr A. P. Thompson
Sir, The reply by Wynne Godley and Adrian Wood in *The Times* of November 12 reveals more clearly than ever that they are describing a completely different situation from that described by Professor A. J. Merritt and Alan Sykes (*Financial Times*, September 30).

Even when they quote Merritt and Sykes's original assertion, they miss the point and leave out the essential phrase that "under inflationary conditions profits must be considered net of both depreciation at replacement cost and of stock appreciation." In their latest article, Godley and Wood do not mention inflation explicitly, and do not even take it into account in that part of the article dealing with the Merritt and Sykes argument.

What Godley and Wood are

saying is that under non-inflationary conditions, "stock appreciation" should not be deducted in arriving at net profits. In non-inflationary conditions few of their opponents would disagree and it is this fact which makes them believe that they have forced a reassessment of the situation on their opponents.

What Merritt and Sykes and other proponents of inflation accounting are claiming is that profits ought to be defined as the surplus over and above any expenditure necessary to maintain the real value of equity capital constant. This is not put forward as "an ethical proposition", but as a necessary condition of a healthy capitalist society.

The difficulty arises because of the insistence of the protagonists of replacement cost accounting on regarding inflation as a matter of specific prices, rather than general fall in the value of money.

CPP accounting makes clear that the problem of inflation is not stock appreciation but the difficulty encountered by companies in replacing with money the value of has declined since the chasing the stock which it replacing.

I challenge Godley and Wood to restore their content terms of pounds of constant purchasing power. Only who have done so will it be possible to discover whether they have any validity for the world of today.

Yours faithfully,
A. P. THOMPSON,
25 Finsbury Circus,
London,
EC2M 7EE,
November 12.

Data security company launches

A London-based software house, Marcol Computer Services, yesterday launched a subsidiary company which aims to provide a consultancy service in data security. Known as Data-guard, the new company will investigate all aspects of the security of computer systems, and where appropriate will implement corrective or precautionary measures.

Managing director of Data-guard is Mr Joseph Kenny, formerly a private consultant. In 1969 Mr Kenny became a member of the British Computer Society's privacy and public welfare committee, of which he was appointed chairman last year.

Mr Kenny said yesterday: "Information technology is constantly developing. The future existence of an organization could depend on the correct assessment of a new development and the rapid implementation to deal with it."

In working for clients, Data-guard envisages an initial survey would establish a protection policy, with security sub-systems.

A typical survey would cover the identification of assets to be protected and the likely threats

Computer news

After the recent approval of the Software Houses Association to merge with Mr Mills said: "Discuss a few basic practicalities being finalized with all speed so that the new organization may spring into existence as early as possible next summer."

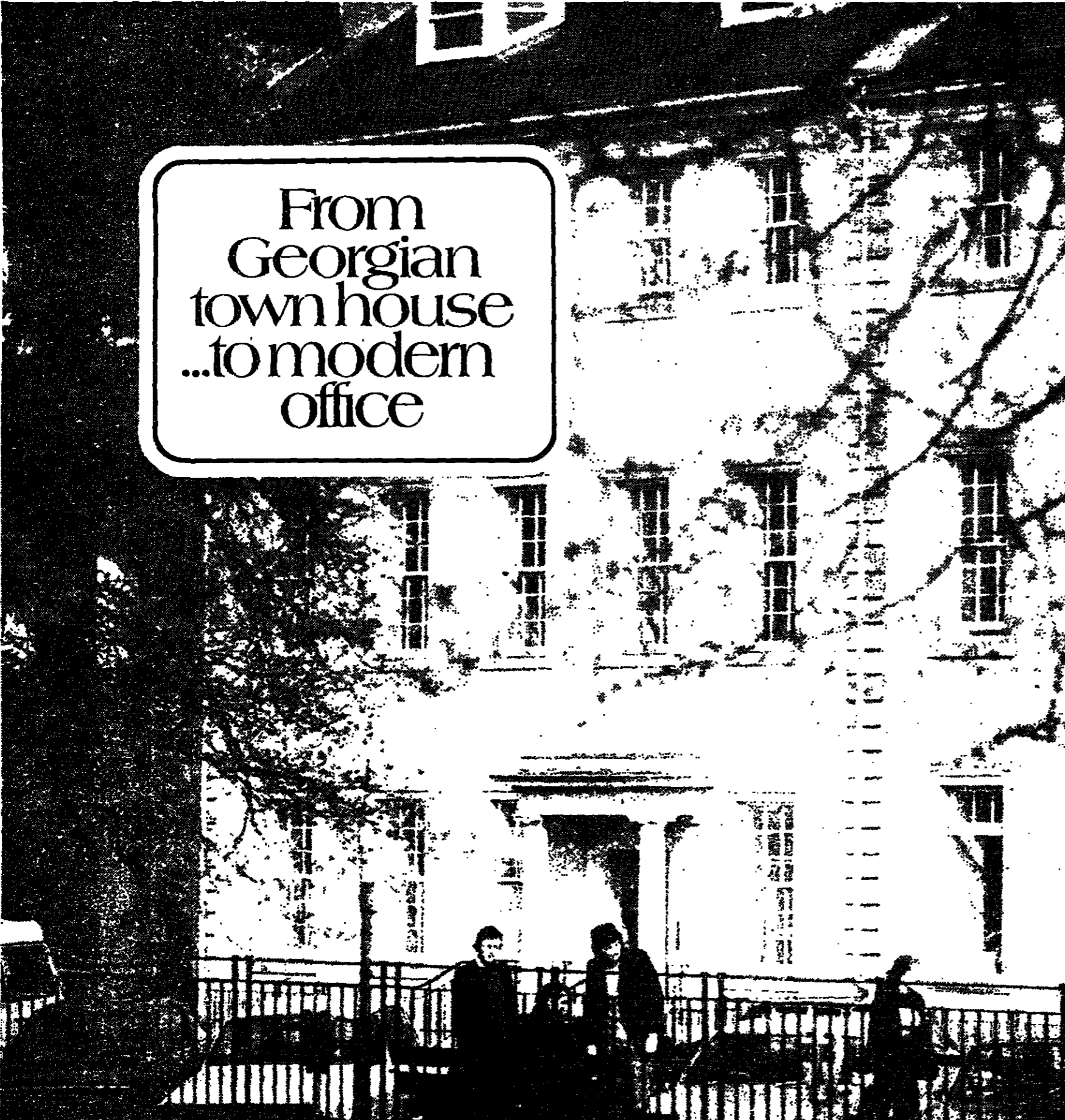
The new association will organize a European conference next summer.

New microprocess

A new microprocessor has been designed for sale equipment and other volume industrial applications. It is being developed by Electronics of Bishop's Cleeve. Developed from the company's large-scale integrated circuits, which were at the electronic calculator based on two LSI devices.

Potential applications seen in electronic cash registers, price-comparing machines, change-over and money-issuing equipment, dispensing and pricing liquids, taximeters and other terminals.

Kenneth



From Georgian town house ...to modern office

To improve amenities for businesses and staff, implies development and change. With today's advanced building techniques and careful consideration of design methods, office development need not lead to environmental vandalism, or waste scarce energy resources.

Energy Management To make the point we have illustrated Scottish Equitable's new office in St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, with its completely rebuilt Georgian facade. When planning permission was requested to develop the site, a major condition for consent was that the historic and magnificent front of the building be retained or completely reconstructed in its eighteenth century design.

Naturally this presented problems. Not least among them was the fact that daylight to the premises was limited to the front and rear. This meant that permanent



artificial light would be necessary throughout the 140 feet depth of the building during hours of occupation, which would create excessive heat, and, in turn, the need for special ventilation.

Heat Recovery The economic answer for Scottish Equitable was to install an integrated system of lighting,

heating and air conditioning; and so reduce running costs to a minimum.

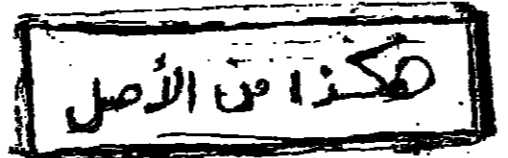
This system, depending on the ability to reclaim heat, makes use of all the heat already within the building, most of which would normally go to waste, and contributes to a consistent and comfortable internal environment throughout the year. This is heat recovery—with the result that 60% of the heat needed to keep the building at an equitable temperature is recycled from the lighting fittings, cooling plant, and the occupants themselves.

Environmental Care This is what IED—short for Integrated Environmental Design—is all about—whereby a building can combine good quality lighting and a high level of environmental comfort, with efficient use of energy through heat-recovery, with acceptable capital, maintenance, and running costs. Ask your Electricity Board to tell you

more about IED and to work out the energy requirements for your building projects. They have the knowledge, experience, and computer services to give a balanced appraisal, not just on technical questions, but the economics too.

ELECTRICITY IED makes better use of energy

The Electricity Council, England & Wales



FINANCIAL NEWS

Lorho letter on cash from Kuwait leaves some questions open

By Peter Wainwright
Lorho, the pan-African conglomerate, gave news last week of the £5.1m Kuwait cash infusion for 8 million shares; and yesterday came the formal document asking shareholders to agree to this at an extraordinary meeting on December 11, one day after the preliminary figures for the year to last September are due to be announced.

THE SECOND SCOTTISH INVESTMENT TRUST COMPANY LIMITED

The Annual General Meeting of The Second Scottish Investment Trust Company Limited will be held on 17th December, 1974 in Edinburgh. The following is the circulated statement by the chairman, Sir William McEwan Younger, Bt., D.S.O.:

In a year during which stockmarkets all over the world suffered very severe falls, it is at least some small satisfaction that income shows a good increase, due very largely to the substantial sums deposited on temporary loan at the high rates ruling during the year.

Taxation, as a result of the higher rate of Corporation Tax, and a higher proportion of unfranked income, increased substantially, but this was largely offset by a reduction in interest paid, due to the repayment of the dollar loan in January.

INCREASED EARNINGS AND DIVIDEND
Earnings per stock unit rose by 16% to 2.00p, and the Directors consider that, in a year of steep inflation, and severe falls in share prices, stockholders should benefit from our higher revenue. They accordingly recommend that the total dividend for the year should be 1.85p, against 1.60p last year.

At 53p the net asset value of our Ordinary Stock units was at its lowest year-end level since 1966, and there is certainly, in present world-wide conditions, no guarantee of a recovery, though it is undoubtedly true that shares of many commercial, industrial, and other companies, more particularly those with no serious liquidity problems, and a sound basis for future trading, are now, by all normal standards, undervalued.

We are all familiar with the circumstances which have brought about the present situation, and the lack of confidence which generally prevails, but it is by no means certain that wise Budgetary, monetary, and other policies will prevail—over political pressures.

CURRENT SITUATION IN U.S.A. AND U.K.
In the U.S.A., where we hold 43.7% of our funds, it seems probable that it will continue to be recognised that inflation largely results from excessively easy monetary and fiscal policies, and that the solution does not lie in stimulating expansion of the monetary supply and a large increase in the Budget deficit.

In the U.K., unfortunately, where we hold 48.3% of our funds, there is a real danger that fear of a recession and of unemployment will lead, once again, to over-stimulation, and so eventually to an even higher level of inflation: while industry is also having to operate against a background of political hostility to private enterprise, and a continuing belief, belied by all past experience, in the wisdom and efficiency of Government Agencies and of vast nationalised monopolies, subsidies to which are now running at an annual rate of over £1,000 million.

It is also by no means certain to what extent the situation will be relieved by North Sea oil, bearing in mind that this is being mortgaged to finance an "oil deficit" of £2,000 to £3,000 million a year, within a total deficit of some £3,600 million a year, and also the difficulties which may arise in financing full development in a climate of uncertainty and political doubts.

The relative attraction of investment outside the U.K. is, of course, recognised in the high level of the Investment Dollar Premium, which, at the moment of writing, stands at 50%.

UNCERTAIN OUTLOOK
In view of the complete uncertainty about the future, with the impossibility of making any worth-while forecast, we are continuing to hold a higher than usual proportion of our funds in liquid form. After allowing for the final dividend, payment of Corporation Tax, and the repayment next June of the 5% Debenture Stock 1970-75, about 15% of our funds are held in the form of temporary deposits with leading banks and with local authorities. At the moment no other course of action appears to be justifiable. But our investments are continually being reviewed in the light of the rapidly changing circumstances, and particularly of the impact, in the U.K., of liquidity problems and of a high level of wage inflation.

JAMES CROPPER & CO. LTD. INTERIM STATEMENT
The following are the unaudited results for the half year ended 28th September 1974, as follows:

20pc jump at AD Int fails to spur shares

A buoyant half-time result and forecast coupled with a reassuring statement on future employment, prospects was not enough to stop another slide in the shares of AD International, the dental manufacturing group. Last week the price fell 17p to 51p mainly because of the reference to the Monopolies Commission of the bid from Dentaply, of the United States, and last night the shares closed another 7p lower on the day at 44p.

In the half to June 30 profits rose 20 per cent to £1.62m pre-tax, with turnover expanded from £13.3m to £15.4m. And with second-half trading expected to produce a similar result the group is looking for growth of about 30 per cent to £3.2m. The attributable stands at £762,000 (£669,000) and the dividend goes up from 1.04p to 1.15p.

Mr P. Burgin, chairman, says that in spite of the difficult climate the plan to expand and rationalize United Kingdom operations is proceeding and should be completed within the envisaged time scale. On last week's redundancies at the Blackpool engineering factory the board says their significance "should not be exaggerated."

It is a reduction of about 5 per cent of the United Kingdom workforce and at the same time the labour force for chemical and other engineering products is being built up.

Stock markets Fresh falls among secondary banks

The new trading account opened without a sign of relief from last week's gloom. The announcement, late on Friday evening, of the collapse of Triumph Investment Trust, sharpened the fears of another round of problems among the secondary banks. And deepening pessimism regarding the economic outlook brought losses in shares of companies due to report progress shortly.

But an early mark down in share prices, which took the FT index down to 161.6 at 1.00 pm, reflected nervousness rather than selling pressure. Later prices rallied on very slight support from the bearish closer. The FT index ended at 164.6, a net 3.9 down, and The Times index, at 63.96 was 2.06 off. Recorded bargains totalled 6,647, around the average for recent days.

Press reports that the Bank of England would give further help to the beleaguered secondary banks—but perhaps more selectively—brought losses in this sector. Shares in Keyser Uhlmann lost 3p to 41p, Kleinwort Benson 4p to 38p, Hill Samuel 2p to 32p and Slater Walker Securities 2p to 38p.

But the major lending banks picked up well, after a poor start. Lloyds Bank closed unchanged at 100p, after 98p, and National Westminster, 2p off at 96p had touched 94p earlier.

Fears that secondary banks might be forced to jettison properties took several pence off such property shares as Haslemere Estate (78p), Land Securities (69p) and Gt Portland Estates (100p).

On the industrial side, the market was cautious ahead of ICI's third quarter report, due on Thursday. In the wake of the upset caused by Beecham's interim report last week, City will be nervous until ICI's figures are safely out of the way.

Shares in ICI dipped to a new "low" of 118p initially, but later rallied to close unchanged at 122p. Also nervous were Courtaulds, 2p off at 56p, Beecham, 4p off at 111p after 108p, and Bats 4p off at 152p. BLMC touched an all time low of 64p but then steadied to 7p, a net 4p down. Laxco, following the annual report, shed 6p to 54p—after 53p. Hawker Siddeley (140p), Tube Investments (also 140p), Swan Hunter (76p) and Vickers (79p) all closed lower, although sometimes above the worst.

Consumer stocks turned down again ahead of a batch of trading statements.

Consumer stocks turned down again ahead of a batch of trading statements. Grampian TV weakened to 9p after the interim. Tesco (23p), and J. Lyons (54p) closed lower with reports due this week. Reckitt & Colman slipped to 115p, rallying to 117p after a boardroom denial of market rumours of rights issue plans.

Equity turnover on November 22 was £39.4m (12,952 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were Union Corporation, Bats, Marks & Spencer, GEC Electric, ICI, Burmah Oil, Beechams, Barclays Bank and Lloyds.

Cited-edged prices at the "longer end" of the market advanced strongly. Keen demand on a small overall turnover sent long-dated stocks up by 1/2 to 1 point. Medium-dated stocks were marked up by 1/2 to 1 point, largely in sympathy.

Latest dividends
All dividends in new pence or appropriate currencies.
Year Pay Year's Prev
ago date total year

Table with columns: Company Name, Dividend, Date, Total, Previous Year. Includes companies like Anglo Siam, Anglo Siam, Anglo Siam, Anglo Siam, Anglo Siam.

No Grampian TV interim as loss looms

A sharp mid-year setback has been sustained by Grampian Television, and the directors give warning that the full-year results may show a slide into the red. There is no dividend at this stage, against 0.9 a year ago and a total of 2.75p. The shares dropped 5p to 9p yesterday.

Group pre-tax profit for the half to August 31 dwindled to a mere £8,000, against a previous company profit of £193,000 a year earlier; turnover was £960,000 (£892,000). Captain Iain Tennax, chairman, says that unless there is a "significant" increase in advertising revenue, the company faces the prospect of running at a loss for the full year.

The drop of over 8 per cent in advertising revenue coupled with an increase of 14 per cent in costs—particularly in salaries and wages—were the reasons for the half-time decline. Further, Grampian was off the air for 12 days in September because of an industrial dispute.

Although latest results do not contain a contribution from the wholly-owned subsidiary Campbell & Sellar, it had been trading profitably since May.

In the preceding full year, group profits rose 7 per cent to £307,000.

Clover Dairies expect downturn

With interim profits down 10 per cent to £706,000 pre-tax, the directors of Clover Dairies are expecting a similar second half to last year. This would give a final return of about £1.1m, against £1.22m.

In a breakdown the company says the dairy division has done "very well" to maintain profits in the face of unprecedented rises in costs, not yet fully reflected in ministry remuneration. Progress in the new soft drinks division has been hampered by shortages of bottles and sugar which have made sales targets impossible to meet.

The food market business has been hit by exceptionally high wage awards and a year, and also the difficulties which may arise in financing full development in a climate of uncertainty and political doubts.

The relative attraction of investment outside the U.K. is, of course, recognised in the high level of the Investment Dollar Premium, which, at the moment of writing, stands at 50%.

UNCERTAIN OUTLOOK
In view of the complete uncertainty about the future, with the impossibility of making any worth-while forecast, we are continuing to hold a higher than usual proportion of our funds in liquid form.

After allowing for the final dividend, payment of Corporation Tax, and the repayment next June of the 5% Debenture Stock 1970-75, about 15% of our funds are held in the form of temporary deposits with leading banks and with local authorities.

Mining Heavy buying of Union shares

General Mining & Finance Corporation bought 1,250,000 shares in Union Corporation on Friday at an average price of 56.84 a share or 470p apiece. General Mining, through brokers Greenwell, were in the market again yesterday and the Afrikaans group, associates and friends now have 25 per cent of Union's equity.

High grade uranium find

An Australian mining party said yesterday that it discovered the world's highest-grade uranium deposit in the remote Northern Territory. Pancontinental Mining reported that exploratory work had indicated reserves amounting to 115,000 short tons, it said, £1,400m. The prospects the Government to mining soon. Pancontinental Mining has a 65 per cent share in the rest of the high-grade uranium deposit. The United States Geological Survey is also working on the deposit.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

Table with columns: Country, Maturity, Price, Yield. Includes entries for USA, France, Germany, Italy, etc.

Reserve on Coral-Vernon rumo

By Margaret Drummond
Weekend reports of an impending merger between J. Coral Holdings, one of Britain's biggest bookmaking chains, and Vernons, the privately owned, Liverpool-based football pools group, elicited a non-committal response from both boards yesterday.

David Spencer, the Coral finance director, said that the group could neither confirm nor deny the merger reports. He pointed out, however, that there had been considerable information about Coral i weeks, notably into GRA Property Trust holds around 27 per cent Coral equity, and Leisure, in which around 14 per cent shares.

Business appointments

Kepong Berhad. Mr John Read takes over as chairman of the EMI Group on November 28, succeeding Mr Joseph Lockwood who is retiring. Mr John Powell is the managing director.

Mr M. D. Matthews has been made financial director of EMI-MEC. Mr R. E. Rolier becomes deputy chairman. Mr Kaup and Mr Ken Whitmarsh have joined the board of His Master's Voice (Record Shops), an EMI subsidiary.

Mr Michael L. B. White, former deputy chairman, has become chairman of Newman-Tonks on the retirement of Mr H. C. Sheard, who will remain on the board.

Mr J. G. C. White has become a deputy chairman of the Association of Investment Trust Companies, on the retirement of Mr Andrew Rintoul. Mr Rintoul remains a member of the general committee.

Mr A. J. Lomas has been made a director of Simon-Years of Newport-le-Willows, Merseyside.

Mr Peter Brocklehurst has become scientific director of Sterling Homecare, the personal and household hygiene division of the Sterling-Whitrop Group.

Mr L. Rose has joined the board of Whittington Engineering.

Mr H. T. Burt has resigned from the board of Kuala Lumpur.

Further London hotel for Grand Met

Although the hotel industry is going through a difficult period, Grand Metropolitan, chaired by Mr Maxwell Joseph, is riding the storm and adding more to its portfolio. Terms have been agreed between Grand Metropolitan and Westmoreland Properties, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Westmoreland Investments, for the purchase by GM of the Lord's Hotel, St John's Wood, London, which is opposite Lord's Cricket Ground.

The 335-bedroom hotel near completion is expected to be opened on May 1 next year. It is the second major London hotel to be acquired this year by GM. Among present projects of Westmoreland Investments is The Times building in Gray's Inn Road, London.

Sales net further £8m for Amalgamated Inv
Sales of investment properties at Amalgamated Investment & Property brought in £8.5m over the whole of last year, and yesterday's annual meeting heard from Mr Gabriel Harrison, the chairman, that similar sales agreed this year already total £8m.

One deal is the sale of one of the Amsterdam buildings the Spuibouk Building, which was acquired last year. The buyer is the University of Amsterdam, which, as one of the tenants, had the option to buy the building and is paying £1.5m for it.

All this is in line with board policy to sell low-yielding investments and trading properties in order to reduce borrowings.

N. Brown Investments

At the annual meeting in July Mr D. A. Brown, the chairman of N. Brown Investments, based in Manchester-based direct mail group, said group sales in the current year were 30 per cent up on the same period last year and that profits were substantially higher. For the half year to August 31 profits rose by 19 per cent from £461,000 to £549,000, while turnover bounded by 60 per cent from £6.25m to £9.98m. Although not expecting the same growth rate in sales in the second half the board say they are confident that the full year's profits will exceed the £1.24m of last year, and hope that the dividend rate can be increased. The interim dividend is being stepped up from 1.05p to 1.3p.

Thos Poole replete

The Thomas Poole & Gladstone China board say that the present investment programme in associated companies should be completed by the year-end so that the group will be able to start 1975 by rationalizing and consolidating its new interests. The year-end is being changed from March 31 to December 31, and the current financial period will be for 21 months to December 31. For the 15 months to June 30 turnover was £349,000 (£187,000) and taxable profit £34,300 (£34,500).

James H. Dennis
Metal merchant James H. Dennis reports almost quadrupled turnover of £4.1m and £232,000 pre-tax profits for its last term to August 31. Earnings jumped from 2.45p to 6.23p, a total dividend of 2.34p is declared, against 2.2p for the previous 56 weeks.

Ryan-Traders

Following up last year's record profit of £457,000, Ryan-Traders Distribution has increased its interim pre-tax profits from £199,000 to £218,000 on sales up from

Price shares following the offer to cover short positions.

Price shares following the offer to cover short positions.—AP-Dow Jones.

Threefold increase by James Cropper

Following last year's records in both profits and turnover, James Cropper, the Cambridge-based paper manufacturers, have gone on to produce better interim figures. These show a more than threefold increase in taxable profits which at £268,000 for the half year to September 28, compared with £84,000 for the same 1973 period and with £290,000 for the whole of last year. So at halfway the profit was only £22,000 below that for the whole of last year. The interim dividend is being raised from 1.25p to 1.44p, and the board say they expect to pay not less than the interim dividend by way of final, thus the total will be about 2.88p against 2.62p.

Great Boulder

Results of Great Boulder Mines for 1974 are a big disappointment, say the board. Loloma has nearly 11 per cent of the shares and has nominated Mr Sidney Landish, a Loloma director, for election as a director of Great Boulder.

Chamberlain Group

Group profit reported on November 20 was after extraordinary items of £314, and net 314,000 as stated.

Abbey Panels

After two successive record years, Abbey Panels has suffered a check to its growth. On turnover down from £2.16m to £2.14m, taxable profits for 1973-74 have dipped from £408,000 to £373,000, before crediting £87,000 in respect of the trading debt recoverable from Rolls-Royce.

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Mr Gabriel Harrison, chairman of Amalgamated Investment & Property, Amsterdam building sold for £1.8m.

Raised Warren offer swings Pelmadulla

James Warren's contested offer for Pelmadulla equity shares (other than those already owned) has been increased by 10p a share in cash and is now recommended by the chairman, advised by Arthurton Latham.

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MARKET REPORTS

Foreign exchange

sterling and dollar weakened... The pound and dollar weakened against the Swiss franc...

December sugar plunges another £62

Another £62 a long ton was wiped off the December SUGAR price in London yesterday...

Commodities

as a hesitant influence. The terminal market was mostly 0.50p per ton... Copper price sags in spite of Cipec's 10pc cutback...

£150m Japan/Australia sugar deal near

Talks between Australia and Japan on a long-term sugar agreement are nearing a conclusion...

Profits squeeze may force mine cutbacks

Indigenous miners may soon be forced to cut back output or close if copper prices do not pick up significantly...

World wheat output estimate lowered

World wheat production (excluding China) is now put at 324.9 million in 1973-74...

of Position Sterling

Table with columns for various currencies and their exchange rates against the pound sterling.

Forward Levels

Table showing forward exchange rates for various currencies.

The Times Share Indices

Table listing share indices such as the FTSE 100 and Industrial Average.

Recent Issues

Table listing recent bond and stock issues.

Revlon GB progress

Revlon Corporation's sales for the third quarter of 1974 reached \$148.0m compared to \$122.0m for the like period in 1973...

Bank Base Rates

Table listing bank base rates for various institutions like Barclays, FNCB, etc.

Credit short in discount market

Credit was in short supply in the discount market yesterday. This was very much as expected...

Commodities

By John Woodland. Copper price sags in spite of Cipec's 10pc cutback...

Sanderson Murray chairman gloomy

The outlook for the current year is neither clear, nor at the moment, encouraging... Mr. Williams in his annual statement...

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MAKE FULL USE OF THE TIMES

Commodities

Copper price sags in spite of Cipec's 10pc cutback

It was all so ironical. After years of talks, threats and "master plans" to boost copper prices, the exporting nations of Cipec—Chile, Peru, Zaire and Zambia—finally made a concerted effort... The price-galloping away towards Zaire's fair value estimation of £850 a tonne it declined. Indeed from the £655 that the London Metal Exchange (LME) three months position reached immediately after the move it plunged to £613.50 by the end of the week... The announcement brought an air of confusion. On Tuesday it was reported from Paris that Cipec's exports would be cut 10 per cent on the previous six-month levels from December 1. Late Wednesday Chile announced the closure of its highest costing mine—the Exotic—which was scheduled to produce 49,000 tonnes this year. On Thursday morning Mr Sacha Gueronik, Cipec's executive director, told Reuters in Paris that sooner or later major copper exporters will have to cut production in line with the reduction in exports already announced. The decision reached, he said, "entails no obligation on individual nations to cut output". Thursday evening saw a report by AP-Dow Jones from Santiago quoting General Jorge Leon, vice-president of Codelco—the Chilean state copper agency—who said that there was an "erroneous" interpretation of the decision announced in Paris. "Because of the news that we would only reduce our exports," he said, "those people who work with the metal thought that there would be a continuance of production at current volumes and that copper would be stockpiled in Chile, Peru, Zaire and Zambia. This isn't going to happen". In the first six months of this year, according to the authoritative World Bureau of Metal Statistics, Cipec's mine production was 1,125,300 tonnes (out of a world total of 3,858,500). Thus if the plan is a 10 per cent mine cutback about 112,500 tonnes will be lost in the following six months. A year ago, or even six months, this would have had extremely serious implications for the price and consumers but a whole new scene is now on the screen. Consumption has dropped and this is likely to fall at a much faster rate in the following months. Stocks are rising rapidly. In London Metal Exchange warehouses alone there are 117,375 tonnes while economic gloom pervades many countries. The two leading copper consumers—the United States and Japan—are in recession with the situation likely to get worse before the tide turns. It appears therefore that the Cipec move may have come just in time to prevent the price from dipping to £500 or below. But even this could be questioned. It will be recalled that the LME average price just three years ago was £444.50 which then receded to only £428 in 1972. With boom conditions prevailing the 1973 average price jumped to £727 in 1973 and for

Commodities

By John Woodland

the first nine months of this year it rose to £775. "At the end of the Paris Cipec meeting (Tuesday) Mr Philip Jevons, the managing director of Rudolf Wolff & Co—the London based international metal brokers—was speaking to the American Metal Market copper forum in New York. He said: "Emerging nations who are selling a national resource that is irreplaceable would be well advised to withhold their sales, albeit temporarily. It may be difficult for some of them to afford to do this, but as a combine there is absolutely no reason that with relatively small sums of money involved why they cannot use the exchange—the LME (to protect the price) by wise dealing in the secondary market. The lead and zinc producers have successfully done this in the recent past. "Current price levels", he said, "allow little or no profit to the world industry as a whole. Certainly nothing is left for the development of low grade ores and bodies which will be vital in the next two decades. I think a fair price of copper in the next decade must be in excess of £1,000 a tonne. Current levels are unacceptable to all but a few producers with low cost mines that will not be seen again." Mr Jevons took the opportunity to attack the producer price system. The United States producer prices fluctuate in the same way as the prices on the LME but less frequently. They are, he said, to the benefit of the rich producer with enormous natural wealth which is buried under the ground. "Forward sales are based on producer price which the fabricator accepts. I put it to you, gentlemen, why on earth does the fabricator accept a contract of this nature? The contract that he makes with the producer is based on the price ruling at the time of delivery and not at the time of contract. "The producer can change his price at will, and declare force majeure, if it suits. Who suffers? Certainly not the producer. The fabricator carries the can." "Currently there are moans and groans from the Cipec nations about current London Metal Exchange price levels. But, Mr Jevons said, it did not receive any accolade from them in the first quarter of this year when their product was being sold at £450 a tonne. If the emerging nations have a complaint about LME prices, which is not created by an exchange per se, "my question to them is why do they not participate more in the creation of that price? "In other words they should use the system, rather than seeking to devise artificial pricing that will inevitably be broken in the long run by the inexorable law of supply and demand."

Wall Street

New York, Nov 25.—Wall Street stocks opened firm but soon turned lower and at noon the Dow Jones industrial average was 4.77 down at 610.53. Analysts suggested that part of the weakness stemmed from disappointment that First National Bank of Chicago did not cut its prime interest rate to 10 per cent, as did New York's First National City Bank on Friday.

Volunteer guides: The 150 volunteers, above, from the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies are to act as guides when the Royal Academy opens three rooms of Old Burlington house to the public for the first time next spring. Paintings by Reynolds, Constable and Gainsborough will be rehung (our Arts Reporter writes).

A small additional gallery ad-

joining the rooms, which are part of a suite of five, is to be opened next March in time for the tourist season so that the academy can display for the first time since 1939 a sculpture by Michelangelo, the Taddai torso of "The Madonna and Child with the Infant St John".

The sculpture, which has been on show to the public on request in a private room, is one of four by Michelangelo outside Italy. Two are in the Louvre and the other

is in Bruges. Mr Sidney C. Hutchison, secretary of the academy, said yesterday: "In two or three days only four or five people ask to see it. I deny that the academy has ever hidden the work, which was on public show from 1874 to 1939."

The showing will coincide with the date of the 500th anniversary of the sculptor's birth. The volunteer guides are drawn from societies in the Home Counties and will work in groups of three on a rota

of one session a fortnight. The association was chosen because its North Kent Voluntary Conservation Corps has been cleaning books in the academy's library for the past four years.

Mr Hutchison said they would be given £2 towards their fares and luncheon vouchers. He thought the admission charge of 50p would be a fair price for students and pensioners. Parking could not be provided.

Law Report November 25 1974

Withholding consent to adoption

In re H (minors)
Before Sir Justice Baker, President, and Mr Justice Hollings
[Judgment delivered November 22]

An appeal by the father of two girls aged 14 and 11 against adoption orders made in favour of his former wife and her new husband was allowed by the Divisional Court of the Family Division. Their Lordships held that although the justices were justified in regarding the father as irresponsible as a parent, his consent to the adoption was not to be treated as irrevocable if the evidence fell short of establishing persistent failure by him to discharge his obligation as a parent so as to enable the justices to dispense with his consent to the adoption under section 5 of the Adoption Act, 1958.

The father was ordered to pay £5 a week for the children. He went to Canada in 1960 to work as a full-time teacher. The children's maintenance was paid, and in 1969 he paid for the girls to visit him for six weeks.

The father's French wife left him and he also lost his teaching post. He ceased to send any money for the girls, his letters to them were not answered, and Christmas and birthday presents were delayed. He came to be supported by a young Canadian woman.

Throughout the years the children had forged strong bonds of mutual affection with their paternal grandparents. They stayed with them during holidays. In 1973 the father returned to England with the Canadian woman. The children met him at the grandparents' home and enjoyed seeing him again.

but that should not be weighed as heavily against him as it might be in other cases. Their Lordships considered that the evidence fell short of establishing the persistent failure necessary before a consent could be dispensed with.

The father's conduct was plain, but during the cohabitation he was a loving father. In the context of the life he led, his mother had chosen to lead together and in his occupation he did perform to a certain degree the moral and financial obligations of a father, although he failed from time to time. He had visited the children. He had communicated, though briefly, with them. When in employment he sent money as required by the court order. His emigration to Canada was not of itself a breach of obligation. He had paid for the children to visit him in Canada and on his return had sought renewed contact and had resumed maintenance payments.

Attempted abortion by bogus doctor

For three weeks a man worked as a trained general practitioner, but he had no medical qualifications, Mr John Bullmore, for the doctor for a bogus abortion, was sentenced to six months imprisonment, but reduced the term to five years.

Samuel Adeyemi Boyle, aged 35, unemployed, of Victoria Road, Leamington Spa, was charged with an offence under section 58 of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861, by procuring a miscarriage by deception by posing as a doctor; common assault on a married woman; and an offence under section 20 of the same Act, by procuring a miscarriage by deception.

Mr Michael Anthony Oppenheimer for the father: Mr R. Hayward-Smith for the mother.

MR JUSTICE HOLLINGS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the adoption orders were made on December 7, 1973, in favour of Mr and Mrs W. The respondents to the appeal, Mrs W was the mother of the girls. Her marriage to their father had been dissolved in January, 1968, and she had married again the following month. The father refused his consent to the adoption orders and the justices had dispensed with it on the ground that he was withholding consent unreasonably and that he had persistently failed without reasonable cause to discharge the obligations of a parent (section 5 of the Adoption Act, 1958).

The justices dispensed with the father's consent on the ground that he had persistently failed without reasonable cause to discharge the obligations of a parent.

In *In re D (minors)* (1973 Fam 208) the President had considered, on the authorities, the kind of failure which would justify the dispensing with the consent of a parent. He concluded that in construing the subsection the test of culpability was binding on the court. In that case the President had had under consideration a temporary drifting apart and a withdrawal by the father when a marriage was breaking up. In the present case the father's conduct had to be considered not in the light of a temporary drift, but in the light of a complete breakdown of the cohabitation and for a considerable time after the decree.

The court accepted the justices' character assessment, but the court was sure that the father's failure in respect of his obligations was substantially short of the persistent failure envisaged. His failure was not of such gravity and so complete, so convincingly proved that there could be no advantage to the children in keeping continuous contact with him, nor had he abandoned his duties as a father. He was deprived of his own children against his wishes.

The justices had also decided that the father had unreasonably withheld his consent. It was right to consider what the apparent reasons were for his withholding his consent. He did not seek custody or care and control of the children. His refusal had nothing to do with a desire to upset the new family unit. The justices stated: "His mode of life and the fact of stability offer little encouragement so far as the children are concerned. As a parent his common sense should tell him that it would be to the advantage of the children for adoption orders to be made."

By section 7(1) of the Act the court before making an adoption order had to be satisfied that: (a) every person whose consent is necessary under the Act, and whose consent is not dispensed with, has consented to and understands the nature and effect of the order for which application is made, and in particular in the case of any parent understands that he will be permanently deprived of his or her parental rights; (b) that the order if made will be for the welfare of the infant; (c) that in custody cases the welfare of the child was the first and paramount consideration but in adoption proceedings the second of three separate considerations as to each one of which the court had to be separately satisfied.

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The father's French wife left him and he also lost his teaching post. He ceased to send any money for the girls, his letters to them were not answered, and Christmas and birthday presents were delayed. He came to be supported by a young Canadian woman.

Nothing but good could come from continued contact between the girls and their grandparents. If an adoption order were made that link would be severed.

Finally, the girls were 14 and 11 and had known and loved their natural father for much of their lives and had been in contact with him. That in itself should, in the court's opinion, make anyone pause before deciding that the father, however culpable he might be, had been unreasonable in refusing his consent.

On the merits of the application, their Lordships considered that it ought not to have been granted and the justices ought at least to have exercised their discretion not to discharge the father's consent on that ground, though their Lordships, if necessary, would go further and find that the father was not unreasonable in all the circumstances in withholding his consent.

The hearing before the justices took two days. The justices considered the matter with care.

The parents of the two girls married in March, 1960, after cohabiting. The mother, a trained nurse, returned to work after the elder girl's birth in June, 1960. The father was an art student, his only income being from his grant, money earned from holiday work and gifts from his father. For much of their life together the mother was the mainstay of the home. The father spent seven years at art colleges. In 1965 he went to France on a scholarship, where he met a French girl whom he committed adultery and whom he subsequently married.

The father was ordered to pay £5 a week for the children. He went to Canada in 1960 to work as a full-time teacher. The children's maintenance was paid, and in 1969 he paid for the girls to visit him for six weeks.

The father's French wife left him and he also lost his teaching post. He ceased to send any money for the girls, his letters to them were not answered, and Christmas and birthday presents were delayed. He came to be supported by a young Canadian woman.

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After the mother's remarriage the children visited the father fairly often at weekends. In 1968

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Attempted abortion by bogus doctor

For three weeks a man worked as a trained general practitioner, but he had no medical qualifications, Mr John Bullmore, for the doctor for a bogus abortion, was sentenced to six months imprisonment, but reduced the term to five years.

Samuel Adeyemi Boyle, aged 35, unemployed, of Victoria Road, Leamington Spa, was charged with an offence under section 58 of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861, by procuring a miscarriage by deception by posing as a doctor; common assault on a married woman; and an offence under section 20 of the same Act, by procuring a miscarriage by deception.

MR JUSTICE HOLLINGS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the adoption orders were made on December 7, 1973, in favour of Mr and Mrs W. The respondents to the appeal, Mrs W was the mother of the girls. Her marriage to their father had been dissolved in January, 1968, and she had married again the following month. The father refused his consent to the adoption orders and the justices had dispensed with it on the ground that he was withholding consent unreasonably and that he had persistently failed without reasonable cause to discharge the obligations of a parent (section 5 of the Adoption Act, 1958).

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Appointments Vacant also on page 27

AUSTRALIA

Applications are invited for the following posts, for which applications close on the dates shown. SALARIES (unless otherwise stated) are as follows: Professor \$A12,914; Senior Lecturer \$A12,945-\$A14,724; Lecturer \$A9,000-\$A11,000. Further details, conditions of appointment for each post, method of application and application forms, where applicable, may be obtained from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (Appts.), 38 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF.

Griffith University
Brisbane

Griffith University will start recruiting staff in 1975. Griffiths is a broad school of study based on the development of interdisciplinary teaching. The appointments will be made on a permanent basis. Those who are interested in the school of the medical and health sciences should apply by 31 December 1974.

University of Melbourne
FOUNDATION CHAIR OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

The Professor of Community Health will be responsible for the development of teaching, study and research in the field of health. The successful applicant will be expected to secure a permanent position in the community health field as soon as possible. Salary: \$202,013 per annum (all present under review). 26 December 1974.

University of New South Wales
LECTURER/ SENIOR LECTURER SCHOOL OF LIBRARIANSHIP

Applications are invited for candidates for graduate diploma in Librarianship and for the degree of Bachelor of Library Studies. The successful candidates will be expected to obtain a graduate diploma in Librarianship and a degree in Library Studies. Salary: \$12,000 per annum. 19 January 1975.

LECTURERS DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL STUDIES

The Department of General Studies is responsible for:

- CHAIR IN THE SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**: The appointee will be responsible for developing the economic dimension of environmental studies in the Department. Salary: \$12,000 per annum. 16 December 1974.
- CHAIR IN THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES**: The appointee will be responsible for the development of the history of ideas in the Department. Salary: \$12,000 per annum. 16 December 1974.
- CHAIR IN THE SCHOOL OF MODERN ASIAN STUDIES**: The appointee will be responsible for the development of the study of modern Asia in the Department. Salary: \$12,000 per annum. 16 December 1974.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER
GUILD OF STUDENTS
PERMANENT SECRETARY

The University of Exeter Guild of Students wishes to appoint a permanent secretary to the Guild. The post involves not only administration and supervision of staff of the Guild and individual students on a wide range of subjects including legal matters, welfare, etc.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS
University of Ottawa

HISTORY PROFESSOR AFRICA OR LATIN AMERICA

Appointment for July 1, 1975. Rank and salary will depend on qualifications. Ph.D. and ability to lecture in English and French are required.

University of Leicester
HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS (TWO POSTS) IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Applications are invited for two posts of Research Assistant in the Department of Information and Communication Studies. The successful candidates will be required to work under the general supervision of the Lecturer in charge of the department.

University of Birmingham
FACULTY OF COMMERCE AND SOCIAL SCIENCE
Institute of Local Government Studies
DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION GROUP

Applications invited for:

- LECTURER**: for three years in one of the following fields, to take up duties as soon as is mutually convenient: (1) Management and Economic Development in Local Government; (2) Urban Planning and Administration.

University of Durham
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Applications are invited for the post of POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT in the Department of Physics. The successful candidate will be required to work under the supervision of the Lecturer in charge of the department.

Massey University
Palmerston North, New Zealand
LECTURER IN HISTORY

Applications are invited from persons who have completed a higher degree or who are well advanced towards the completion of the position of Lecturer in History. The successful candidate will be required to teach and supervise students in the Department of History.

Royal Postgraduate Medical School
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Applications are invited for the post of SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER in the Department of Medicine. The successful candidate will be required to manage the department's administrative affairs.

The Middlesex Hospital
Medical School (University of London)
ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited from persons who have completed a higher degree or who are well advanced towards the completion of the position of Lecturer in the Department of Medicine. The successful candidate will be required to teach and supervise students in the Department of Medicine.

INSTITUT MAX VON LAUE—PAUL LANGEVIN
GRENOBLE—FRANCE

The Institut Max Von Laue—Paul Langevin operates a high flux reactor for studies of condensed matter in the fields of physics, chemistry, biology and materials science. Visitors from universities and research centres in the member countries, France, Germany and the UK, and resident scientists use the high flux beam reactor and the Institut provides scientific and technical support.

Applications are invited for the following post at Grenoble:

ENGINEER FOR REACTOR OPERATION (Mechanical Engineering Group)

The successful applicant will be in charge of a group responsible for the maintenance of and adjustments to the mechanical equipment of the reactor and associated facilities.

Applicants should possess a degree or equivalent qualification and have a sound knowledge of reactor operation and the behaviour of materials subjected to radiation. A working knowledge of French is desirable but not essential, as tuition will be given.

Salary will be according to qualifications, experience and responsibilities. Removal expenses will also be paid and assistance given in seeking accommodation.

Write for application form to: Mr D. McConville, Science Research Council, c/o British Rail Engineering Ltd., Swindon Works, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 5BW, quoting reference and post applied for.

Completed application form should be returned by 16 December 1974.
Ref: ILL/05

NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM YORK
Applications are invited from Men and Women for **5 posts graded Museum Assistant** of which one is in the Library and another in Lecture Service.

Museum duties vary, but generally include technical handling, cleaning, display and demonstration of exhibits, maintenance of departmental records, reception of visitors, and answering of enquiries. The Library Museum Assistant gives general help in store-rooms, reading room, tracing, taking out and replacing volumes for readers, and assisting readers in use of library facilities. The Lecture Service Museum Assistant acts as Demonstrator for Projection and computer and operates demonstration apparatus.

Candidates should normally have 4 'O' levels (or equivalent) including English and Mathematics or relevant Science Subject. Preference may also be given to candidates whose passes include a Modern Language.

Starting salary according to age from £1,054 at minimum age 16 to £1,714 at age 22 or over, rising to £2,056. Non-contributory pension scheme, promotion prospects. Application forms and particulars from The Establishments Office, The Science Museum Exhibition Road, South Kensington, London SW7 2DD, or telephone 01-589 6371, Ext. 409 or 502.

Completed application forms to be returned by 16 December 1974.
Interviews in York.

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PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS The Open University FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

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SENIOR TECHNICIAN AND TECHNICIANS are required for electrical, mechanical and civil engineering departments in the Faculty of Engineering.

Director OF THE SSRC SURVEY UNIT

The post of Director of the SSRC Survey Unit will become vacant on the retirement, on 30 September, 1975, of the present Director, Dr. Mark Abrams.

SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE ROYAL YACHTING ASSOCIATION

Applications are invited from persons within the ages of 30 to 45 for the above post which will be filled as soon as possible.

BANK OF MAURITIUS DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Applications are invited from Mauritian nationals for a post of Director of Research in the Bank of Mauritius with salary at the rate of Rs 4,500 per month.

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The Governors invite applications for the post of HEAD (man or woman) of this INDEPENDENT PUBLIC BOARDING SCHOOL (270 girls, aged 3 to 18).

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A vacancy exists for a Senior Solicitor. The successful candidate will have the ability to cope with a wide range of matters; the fields of work undertaken by the Department include conveyancing, litigation, commercial work and advocacy.

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the international magazine of art and antiquities makes a splendid all-year-round Christmas gift. Published monthly. Annual subscription £6.00. Overseas £8.00. Write: Apollo, Bracken House, 10 Cannon Street, London E.C.4.

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Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

PORTABLE ARTIST'S DONKEY

Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

TRADITIONAL CRAFTS and Gifts

Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

FOR GIFTS OF DISTINCTION

Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

CLEAR VIEW photograph

Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

Perry Como

The First Thirty Years. Fifty six hit songs, songs old and new, featured in the new luxury 4 record box set. LFL47522. £7.55. RGM

DAMAGED RUG SALE

Fine Persian and Oriental Rugs, selling under half normal price. Write: Rug Sale, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

WINDSOR PARK GALLERY

5 High Street, London, W.1. Tel: 521422

Louis XV Chiffoniers with

Draper and Marble Top. With Ormolu embellishments and Inlaid Facings. Galleries, 107 South End, Croydon, 01-488 0147

A NIGHTSHIRT FOR CHRISTMAS

Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

BOBBI BOBOIS

50 Baker Street, London, W.1.

MODEL SPORTS

Why not give a baby? See the specialist in sports, games and hobbies. 18 Brunswick Centre, Haverhill Street, London, W.C.1. Tel. 01-897 2556 and at Whitgift Centre, Croydon.

Solid Silver Lighter Case

with 3 Faneur lighters in black or white, in black presentation case, with leather strap or chain. £22.00 to £1.00. Write: Bombacha, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

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104 Finsbury Rd., S.W.5. (Call us on ring 01-584 5281 for details.) Bombacha also stock a fine selection of the best French and English clothes.

The 12 months of Christmas

The Illustrated LONDON NEWS. An annual subscription brings 12 monthly issues plus the traditional Christmas Number. Send £5.00 for each order, with your name and address and those to whom you wish The Illustrated London News to be sent. Subscription: Marjorie, 23-29 Emerald Street, London WC1N 3JL. We will send a greetings card with your gift.

FINEST SILVER GIFTS

This Christmas, dine in elegance with beautiful Silver Tableware available direct from our top London Workshops. Illustrated Catalogue 50p. THE SILVER CLUB (17) 8 Hatton Garden, London, EC1. Shrim, 57 Farringdon Rd., EC1. Early English Ribbed Pattern

The Times Christmas Gift Guide COMPETITION

What comes round once a year, is full of tempting gift suggestions, and makes Christmas shopping a joy? You don't have to be good at riddles to answer that one—but how good are you at creating riddles?

Test your skill, and win any one of these three super prizes for yourself for Christmas!

A WINE PACK
1 bottle Pol Roger white foie Champagne.
1 bottle Volnay red Burgundy.
1 bottle El Cid Sherry.
1 bottle Craft fine old port.

B CIGAR PACK
30 Corvanna Havana Cigars in presentation box.

C SMOKED SALMON PACK
Whole side of sliced Scotch smoked Salmon minimum weight 2lbs in sealed pack.

* Prizes supplied by Unesco Ltd., 188 Campden Hill Road, London W8 7TH.



The names and addresses of the winners will be published in The Times. The decision of the judges is final. All entries will be judged on their literary merits.

For Her

BEWITCHED

That's the French word for Surtique. A sophisticated French fragrance that has powers to leave men spellbound. This warm floral bouquet is available as extract, perfume, talc, soap and fluid hydrate.

SECRET

Eau Noble is a beautiful fragrance for women who love to be different. Its secret ingredients give it radiance and discreet charm. Wear it every day, and see what it does for you. Available as Eau de Toilette only. Best of these fragrances by Le Gallon are available at most good size chemists and leading department stores.

Gifts to Treasure...

Rings, Lockets, Bangles, Bracelets, Necklaces, Jewellery, Watches. All perfect gifts in gold or silver. Write: Jewellery, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

ATKINSON

10, Church Street, London, W.1.

THE PARROT CLUB

Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

FOR HER

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For The Home

SEND A FRIEND A TREE

Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

CHOOSE A PERSIAN RUG

Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

SCANDINAVIAN art and design

Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

GOOD FOOD

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MEMORIES for a 100 Xmas's

Write: Christmas Gifts, 10, Church Street, London, W.1.

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NICE HERMES—For exotic

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WHITE SANDS HOTEL—Antigua

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ENJOY YOUR XMAS and 1

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CHRISTMAS IN PARIS, 3.

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Private and General Appointments page 29

GRADUATE GIRLS DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

£3,500-£4,500 PARIS

Senior P.A. UP TO £2,500

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JOIN THE MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT

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SECRETARIAL SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

required for Financial Controller of European section of an International Insurance Group.

Replies should be addressed to Box 101, 28/29 Dover Street, London W1X 4HS.

VARIETY AND SECURITY! SEC/PA—£2,300—£2,500

This is not quite the usual run-of-the-mill post. Our client is the Chairman of an established small Merchant Bank in Mayfair.

Please phone Louise Cowen, 01-499 3712 ALBEMARLE APPOINTMENTS 31 Berkeley Street, W1X 5AE

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Seeking for a relaxed role in a big overseas bank. The role is to be a liaison officer between the bank and its overseas branches.

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Advertising opportunities in a leading magazine. The magazine is published weekly and has a circulation of over 1 million.

CONTAIN YOUR CURIOSITY UNTIL YOU MEET THE PA/SECRETARY

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SOMEHOW DAHLING I suspect

Seeking for a PA/Secretary for a senior manager in a leading company. The role is to be a liaison officer between the manager and his staff.

PERSONAL SECRETARY £2,400

Seeking for a Personal Secretary for a senior manager in a leading company. The role is to be a liaison officer between the manager and his staff.

FLUENT FRENCH AND GERMAN

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SMALL FILM COMPANY, W.C.2

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PERSONNEL SECRETARY for the

Seeking for a Personnel Secretary for a senior manager in a leading company. The role is to be a liaison officer between the manager and his staff.

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Seeking for a PA/Secretary for a senior manager in a leading company. The role is to be a liaison officer between the manager and his staff.

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Seeking for an Audio Engineer for a senior manager in a leading company. The role is to be a liaison officer between the manager and his staff.

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Seeking for a PA to an American Director for a senior manager in a leading company. The role is to be a liaison officer between the manager and his staff.

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Excellent post for efficient Secretary with some legal experience.

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LEGALLY YOU CAN EARN £2,200 + L.V.

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Seeking for a Youngster for a senior manager in a leading company. The role is to be a liaison officer between the manager and his staff.

LECTURES AND MEETINGS

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Short term rental from 1 week

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STAG 1971. Very nice car in good condition. Price £1,200.

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TOP SECRETARY. Seeking for a top secretary position in a leading company.

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Seeking for a PA/Secretary for a senior manager in a leading company. The role is to be a liaison officer between the manager and his staff.

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PERSONAL COLUMNS ALSO ON PAGE 31

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 13,852

Grid for crossword puzzle No 13,852.

ACROSS... 1 Cavalier poet gets no score, to Aleo's discomfiture (8). 2 Isolate colour as warning (6).

DOWN... 1 James Russell may see fit to be a writer (6). 2 It's bound to be booked to capacity vessel at danger-point (9).

Why I raised £7,000 for the Royal Hospital

by Mrs. K. Hain... "I think the single most important thing was knowing it was a home for incurables. When quite a young girl said to me 'I was born incurable. What would you call it?'"

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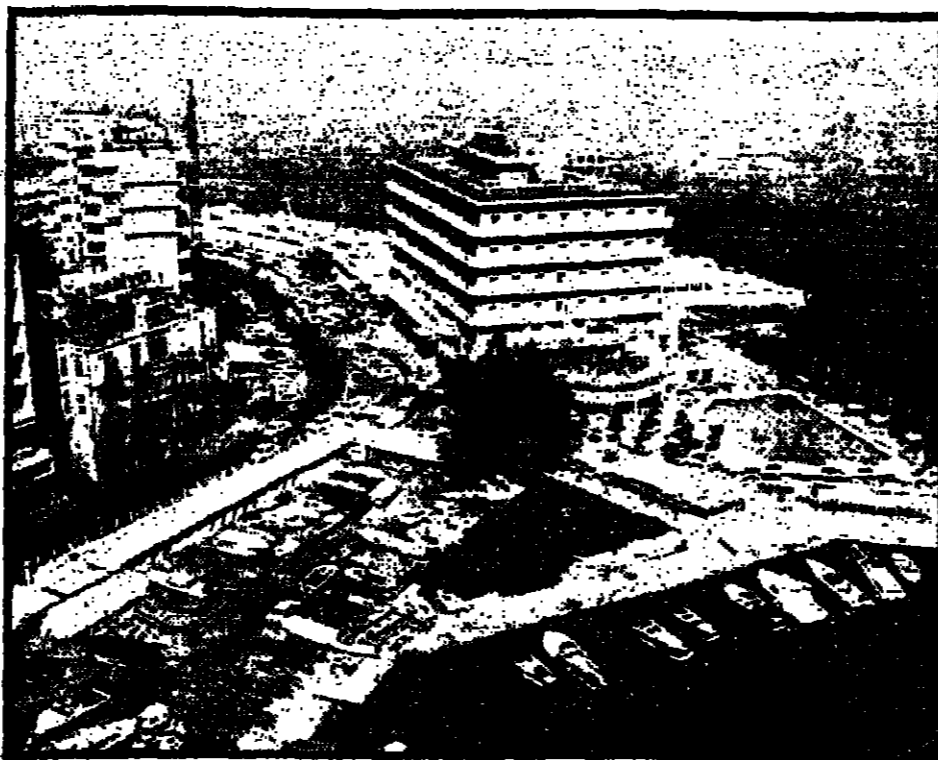
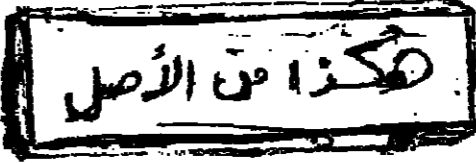
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BEIRUT



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views of the 'Lebanese miracle'—the vital between the developed western nations and oil-rich countries of the Middle East

forms to boost confidence and sustain competition

Joseph Aazem Middle East Digest
have been expressed opinion that the country gradually losing its position as the of the Arab world entrepreneur pro- the vital link be- the industrialized and the oil-exporting of the Middle East. foreboding has been ed by signs of eco- and political progress in the Middle East since the October war. Some Lebanese aid that the erosion r role as the Middle middlemen may upset country's fine balance litical and economic which has flourished orted prosperity. country's economy ounter, shown in the remarkable resilience face of external pres- On the surface it's vulnerable to exte- riors since its leading -finance, industry,

trade and the services—are dependent on the Arab hinterland of rich oil-based and agricultural economies. The boom in these sectors continues, except for the occasional hiccup, in spite of Israel attacks across the southern borders, clashes inside the country between the army and Palestinian guerrillas, and economic sanctions by other Arab countries at different times. Lebanon appears always to benefit from the prosperity of the Arab states around it, but it somehow manages to escape the worst effects of crises which hit its neighbours. Most of Lebanon's wounds have been self-inflicted. Although its national income per head is the highest in the Arab world outside the main oil-exporting states (\$660 in 1971), the degree of social unrest in Lebanon is the highest in the area, and this has been fostered this year by rampant inflation. It must, however, be borne in mind that workers in many other countries of the Middle East do not have the right to strike.

Official figures put the inflation rate at 10 per cent, but most observers think this is a substantial underestimate. Inflation in Lebanon cannot be attributed to increased oil prices since the country still pays a price subsidized by its other Arab friends of just over \$3 a barrel for most of its crude oil needs and just over \$5 a barrel for the rest. A new Cabinet was formed in Lebanon at the end of October. Although it introduced new faces into Government, including Mr Rashid al-Solh, the Prime Minister, they came mostly from the same mould as the members of the previous Cabinet led by Mr Takkiedin al-Solh. Lebanon's domestic politics have appeared in the past unrelated to the country's economic fortunes. The religious sectarian and semi-feudal forces jockeying for power may have seemed at times to be the outside world as if they were bent on a struggle which could threaten the country's delicate internal balance. But at no time was this balance

really threatened, for when the struggle appeared to be most bitter, as during the insurrection of 1958, the section of the population in revolt was really attempting to restore that balance which had been tilted too far under President Camille Chamoun. Politicians in Lebanon, like politicians elsewhere, do not generally challenge the system of government. Their aim is to preserve the system which has made Lebanon an economic and political haven from the turbulence of the area. Any threat from within, such as

the activities of Palestinian groups before and since 1967, has been dealt with ruthlessly when this was thought to be necessary. Some Arab states have at times reacted angrily to events in Lebanon, but there were always other Arab states with vested interests in Lebanon's survival which neutralized such anger. What some Lebanese fear now is that the country's role as a middleman may no longer be needed. Saudi Arabia and other oil-rich Gulf states are becoming more advanced, and with

their increasing wealth can attract expatriate skills to their own countries. New financial and commercial centres are developing in the Gulf states themselves, and Western (and Japanese) firms are more likely now to deal directly with the Gulf states. Other Arab states are also striving to snatch some of Lebanon's business. Economic liberalization in Egypt and Syria may attract some of the transit trade and investment into proposed tax-free industrial zones. The expected reopening of the Suez Canal may Lebanon,

well divert trade from Beirut. A plan to link the Syrian and Iraq rail networks could provide a direct access route to the Gulf which passes Lebanon. Some authorities, however, appear unperturbed. They argue that with so much new wealth being created some of it is bound to come to Lebanon. Funds are flowing into Lebanon in increasing quantities, although they represent only a small proportion of revenues surplus to the oil-producers' needs.

This is reflected in the flow of funds from Beirut to the London financial market. Lebanon's non-resident deposits in London, according to the Bank of England, increased by almost half during the first half of this year to about £350m. The direct flow of funds from Lebanon to the Middle East oil producers, was up by £2,700m in the same period to £4,535m.

Lebanon's open and competitive market will also continue to attract buyers from other Arab states. They usually can assume that anything they need is available in Beirut. Whereas a European supplier, for example, will quote a delivery date of six months, his agent in Lebanon in many cases will be able to ensure immediate delivery of the same goods from his stocks in the overflowing hangars of Beirut port.

The Arabic language also plays an important role in keeping the need for Beirut alive. Although an increasing number of Gulf Arabs can now speak foreign languages, they naturally feel more at home with Arabic, and tend to believe that they can strike a better deal with a fellow Arab whose mentality they understand. The main problem for Lebanon, therefore, is

system in such a way as to enhance the confidence of other Arabs, and to keep the Lebanese market, both in finance and goods, competitive. Measures have been taken this year to improve the competitiveness of the banking system. New free non-resident foreign currency banking deposits of tax guarantee requirements and impose other restrictions, should come into force this month.

Measures have also been taken to ease the congestion at the port of Beirut with the introduction of a new shiftwork system and penalties on goods left at the port for lengthy periods. These measures do not appear to have had much effect so far.

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The major success story is that of industry. This sector is still badly neglected, according to its leaders, and its interests sacrificed to those of commerce. Nevertheless Lebanese industrial exports, whose markets are almost exclusively Arab, more than doubled in value during the first half of this year to £263,966m, compared with £131,484m during the first half of 1973. The most important products were

metallic goods, mineral products, processed foods, textiles, clothing and pharmaceuticals. But since then, although the values each month are higher than in the corresponding period last year, the rate of growth has been falling. The exceptionally high demand up to the end of May was, however, partly artificial, since it was affected by the wish of some importers in the Gulf to build up stocks in anticipation of a continuing escalation in world commodity prices. This demand, therefore, slackened with the levelling off of commodity prices. In Lebanon and shortages of some raw materials may also have contributed to the fall in exports.

Tourism is another booming sector in Lebanon which depends on the hinterland. The summer season this year started badly but soon picked up. Although an increasing number of tourists from the Gulf are heading for Europe, the spreading of wealth in the region is also expected to lead to an increase in Arab tourists to Lebanon.

The Lebanese tourist industry, being dependent on Arab tourists, has also managed to escape the decline in tourism experienced this year by other areas around the Mediterranean, and its prospects appear healthy for many years to come. The freedom from restrictions in Lebanon and the country's attractive countryside and ideal climate have also made it the ideal business centre of the area. Many of the bankers who have been flocking during the past two years to establish themselves in the Middle East opt for Beirut because, everything else being equal, Beirut is more comfortable and convenient to live in than anywhere in the Gulf.

Industrial exports doubled

The Lebanese postal system is notorious for its inefficiency and a massive budget of £16,400m (£72m) was allocated for its development, but no improvement can be seen yet. The telex network on the other hand is operating reasonably well. Efforts to inject new life into the lethargic Beirut stock market have not met much success so far.

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Despite crises economic success continues to confound the experts

erre Masrallah
is undoubtedly some- about the performance is tiny country, with its ace area of 10,000 sq km its population of less three million which con- ds the economists. It is archetype of the country e economic theory is rely applicable and is regularly give lie to -asis having every arance of authenticity.

Talk of the "Lebanese miracle" is familiar, and well-founded. But the miracle continues. The factors underlying it have remained basically the same since the postwar beginnings and the accession of Lebanon to independence. Without the reassurance of a firm base in manufacturing industry, and without natural resources, this remarkable crossroads economy, so committed to the service industries which account for

more than 70 per cent of its national income, takes every crisis in its stride. The fundamental characteristics of the Lebanese economy are portrayed by various checks and scientific national accounts, and balance of payments statistics, and by the findings of a major survey carried out in 1970 by the Ministry of Planning. We shall restrict ourselves to a rapid review of the salient features of the situation in Lebanon under the headings of pop-

ulation, production and foreign trade. No full population census has been carried out in Lebanon. On the basis of various checks and scientific prepared surveys, it is generally estimated that the resident population, including foreign subjects living in Lebanon as well as nationals, was approximately 2,700,000 at the beginning of 1974. This is a large number in relation to the size of the

country and, in addition to one of the highest population densities in the world, there is also uneven distribution with heavy concentration on urban centres and a high degree of geographical mobility. Finally, it is a young population: 53 per cent of the inhabitants being under the age of 20. The potential working population is almost 1,200,000; the working population is some 800,000. That such a low proportion of the population is in gainful employment is attributable to three factors. First, there is little scope for women to work outside the home; then working life starts late, and finally the level of unemployment is higher among people in the lower educational range than among the illiterate and highly educated.

Twenty per cent of the working population is employed in agriculture, 25 per cent in industry, energy and construction, and 55 per cent in the service industries. Broadly speaking, the proportion of the nation receiving education and the level of instruction are fairly low. Education is more general and academic than specialized and technical, and still varies in quality among regions and between the sexes.

The salient characteristic of production is the distribution of the domestic product by sector of activity. According to the national accounts data, the service industry sector is overwhelmingly predominant, accounting as it does for more than two thirds of the domestic product. This structure is unusual in that, in most countries, the service industries are not a key sector and do not provide the driving force behind economic development; they can even be a parasitical sector. They are often described as having a passive role, in that they profit from excess monetary expenditure and draw their manpower from surplus labour made available by technical progress in industry or agriculture.

Thus, the prospects in Lebanon are different from those in other countries. The development of commercial and banking activi-

ties has been the driving force behind the economy. Imports are running at the high level of 44 per cent of domestic production. It has been believed, wrongly, that this causes vulnerability. In fact, as will be seen, the Lebanese economy has stood the test of fire on more than one occasion and given proof of its remarkable resilience. Finally, this predominance by the service industries distinguishes the Lebanese

economy from those of the other Arab countries, which are all based mainly on either farming or oil. Foreign trade is the area in which the originality of the Lebanese economy is most striking. Despite a trade in goods of such and the exclusion of gold and currency. In 1971, imports, at £162,446m, were equivalent to 44 per cent of the gross domestic product, whereas exports in the same year, at £161,150m, were 21 per cent.

However, these statistics are not lost on the authorities, who are seeking to reduce the deficit in relative terms as far as possible by boosting exports; the result of their action can be seen in the rate of growth of exports, which is higher than that of imports. This progress is attributable to industrial exports, made possible by the steady

continued on page 11

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Private airline's success	II
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Women in business; the press	VII
Property boom; tourism	VIII

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Airline has become nation's biggest private employ

by Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

From small beginnings just after the Second World War, Middle East Airlines (MEA) has grown until it is one of the most highly respected companies in the world industry, while being the biggest employer in the private sector in Lebanon.

In 1945 the MEA maintenance base at Beirut airport occupied one small hangar big enough to house three Rapide biplanes, and employed one engineer and six mechanics.

Today the base covers 27,000 sq metres, has \$5.5m worth of buildings and equipment, and employs about 1,450 engineers, mechanics and other specialists. Eighty-two air operators from all parts of the world use the services of the base, taking up about 40 per cent of the productive capacity. The remainder is used for keeping the airline's own fleet in perfect operational condition.

This fleet has now expanded from the original two of Rapides to 19 Boeing 707s, plus five more, plus three 747s on order. MEA also took out options to buy the Concorde supersonic airliner with a view to operating it between Beirut and New York, with a stop at Toulouse, south-west France.

During its progress to its present strong position, the airline has had to survive several severe crises, including the collapse of the Intra Bank, the Israel raid on Beirut airport in 1968 in which most of the MEA fleet was destroyed, the June, 1967, and the October, 1973, Arab-Israel wars, and the internal disturbances in Lebanon in May, 1973, when for six days the operational base was moved from Beirut to Nicosia, Cyprus.

In spite of these problems, MEA—which in keeping with a Lebanese tradition of free-trading is privately owned—has remained consistently profitable. Shaikh Najib Alamuddin, the chairman, announced in April a profit for 1973 of \$6.2m.

This result came at a time when most of the world's major airlines were suffering from an economic recession brought about by inflation, particularly the higher costs for aviation fuel. It was the largest profit in the history of MEA, and Shaikh Najib made the

point that the result could not have been achieved without the loyalty and support of the employees, who are now shareholders in their own airline.

"MEA has always considered its human capital as its major asset, and has been a pioneer in the field of employee participation, which we believe is the formula for the future", the chairman said. Twenty per cent of the profits are allocated each year for distribution to the 5,000 employees in the form of bonuses, while 50,000 out of a total of one million shares have been made available for purchase to all employees.

Shaikh Najib has been chairman of the board of MEA since 1956, and for four years before that was general manager. He was educated at the American University of Beirut and the University of Exeter, specialising in engineering and mathematics.

In 1965 he was appointed Minister for Information and Tourism in Lebanon, and the following year Minister for Public Works and Transport.

The general manager is Asad Nasr, a former professor of mathematics who originated the ASNA computer-based formula designed to help airlines to select the most economic fleet of airliners for their routes.

Beirut international airport, which forms the hub of the MEA operations, is one of the most modern facilities in the region. Its passenger terminal was recently modernized so that it can now cater adequately for the jumbo jets of other airlines which regularly pass through on long-distance services from Europe to the Gulf, India and the Far East. The airport also serves as a communications and freight-clearing centre for the Middle East.

MEA's own network of routes covers many of the countries in both East and West Europe, West Africa, and the whole of the Middle East. A direct Beirut-New York service is now being studied, and this could begin within one year in cooperation with Kuwait Airways.

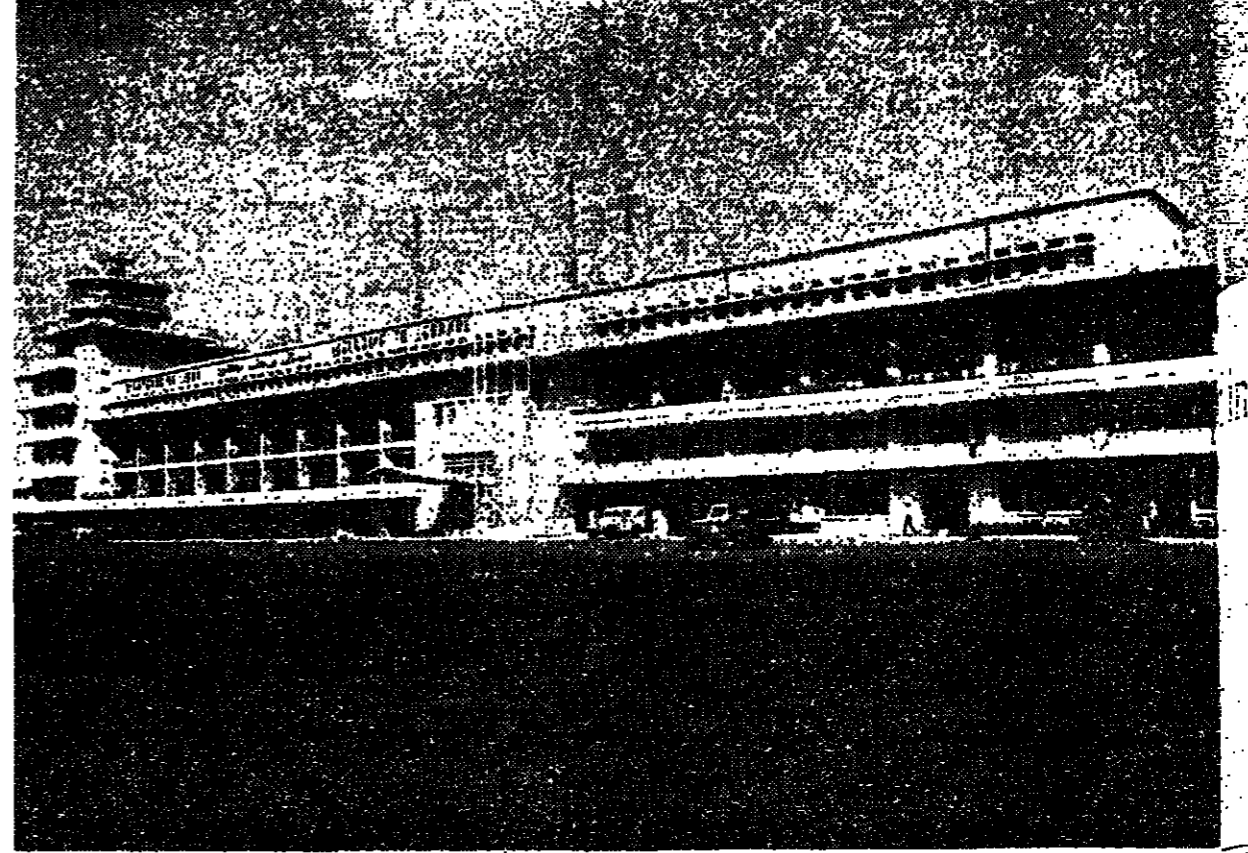
In its choice of type of aircraft in the past, MEA has preferred to offer its passengers high frequency rather than high capacity, on the assumption that this policy allowed better connections with the services of other airlines. But as passenger numbers grow—MEA carried 954,000 in 1973 compared with 880,000 the previous year—the board inevitably looked towards a purchase of wide-body airliners. In June they placed an order with Boeing for three 747 jumbo jets which they expect to begin operating next June.

major Boeing model on the wing of a 222,000lb to 230,000lb, crease the payload tally.

Another performance which the airline is proud of is 0 Cedarwings in which MEA moved its seat operations for six Nicosia while Beirut seized with an out internal troubles.

The move was that of the chairman's that passengers should be left without M. vices, and the total the airline was £60 figure which operational expenses meation in Cyprus sengers unable to Beirut and for the porarily stranded in and losses from c bookings.

Between May 7 an MEA services opera mally, although wit delays, with the e of Beirut landings, passenger, but MEA him alone rather of cel the flight.



Beirut international airport at Khalde.

Despite crises economic success continues to confound the experts

continued from page 1
expansion of Lebanese industry in Arab markets. The overall balance of payments surplus has remained at a steady level, apart from the exceptional year of 1967, when it was unusually high at well over \$1.8 billion, as a result of which the official gold and currency reserves rose by \$1.4 billion, and the reserves of private institutions by \$1.3 billion.

The key item redressing the balance is capital movements, and it is on this subject that the most pessimistic misgivings are expressed: "Anything which represents a threat to the entry of capital into the Lebanon is ipso facto a threat to the balance of payments", said a spokesman. "What could be done if the flow of Arab funds seeking refuge or investment opportunities in Lebanon were to cease for one reason or another?"

Expressed in these terms, this is a problem which concerns all trading countries, and not only Lebanon. It is, however, a problem of any form of dirigist policy in the area of foreign trade but calls for priority to be given to the seeking of stable markets for manufactured goods and the creation of a true money market which will attract capital.

In the case of the Lebanon it would be vain to attempt to base an analysis of the economic situation on a set of fundamental statistics such as are available to economic observers in other countries. Figures for the gross national product, industrial production, the balance of trade, unemployment and prices are published in Lebanon, but they are out of date by the time they appear.

The economic analyst is accordingly obliged to rely on a few indicators which are sufficiently revealing in themselves: it is on the basis of these indicators that an outline is given below of the recent development of the Lebanese economy.

Like so many other modern economies, the Lebanese economy, being heavily dependent on foreign trade, cannot expect to enjoy any great measure of independence from its environment; it is obliged to absorb the effects of all the events taking place around it. The international economic climate is one of recession. It is some months since the downturn started and there is still no sign of a recovery.

The serious disruption caused by excessive inflation has been exacerbated by the oil crisis. The world economy is in a state of imbalance. The United States, Japan and Western Europe are all afflicted by the same ills and are hard pressed to throw off their present stagnation. The balance of trade position of

the non-oil-producing developing countries is deteriorating drastically and their deficit in 1974 will be more than \$27,000m.

During all this, what is happening on the Lebanese economic scene? The situation is a curious one, with hardly any signs of crisis. What, then, has become of the depressive influence of the Western trade cycle? Let the figures speak for themselves.

Exports of manufactured goods are beating their own records.

These exports rose by 80 per cent in the first quarter of 1974, and by 116 per cent in the first two quarters taken together. This is an unprecedented achievement which commands attention. It should be borne in mind that this advance by exports of manufactured goods has been achieved despite the constant rise of the Lebanese pound, which has now appreciated by almost 23 per cent since before the first devaluation of the dollar.

The explanation is that Lebanon is taking advantage of the favourable conditions

in the Middle East to sell its goods to Iraq, Syria and Saudi Arabia, countries which are pursuing massive development programmes.

The volume of shipping is rising appreciably; outgoing traffic by 28 per cent and incoming traffic by 36 per cent. As a result, revenue from customs duty has risen by 34 per cent to \$1.23 billion during the first half of 1974 as compared with \$1.17 billion during the corresponding period in 1973.

Although no statistics have yet been published for foreign trade in 1974 it is known that the figures recorded display a rising trend. Purchases of new private cars alone are running at a monthly average of 3,300, as against 2,100 in 1973 and 1,600 in 1972. In other words they have doubled in less than two years.

Tourism has also made a good recovery in 1974, having previously shown a loss of impetus since the middle of 1972. There have been almost 20 per cent more foreign visitors and hotel trade has improved by 18 per cent.

Banking performance has reflected the country's economic expansion. The assets rose at a monthly rate of \$1.4 billion during the first eight months of 1974, \$1.2 billion a month more than in 1973.

Alongside this development, the monetary authorities are rightly pursuing a credit restriction policy as a means to combat inflation, which has not spared Lebanon and is said to be running at a rate of more than 10 per cent. There are unfortunately no official statistics.

The time is gone when it was possible to make economic forecasts on firm premises with a chance of being proved broadly correct. Lebanon now has three main areas of economic concern. Foremost among them is the campaign against rising prices. Wages have been increased by 15 per cent in six months. In addition, social security benefits have been improved and the prices of several essential products are controlled. A national prices council has been formed recently but has not yet achieved the results hoped for. These various measures are not

enough, however. An effective overall economic policy is still needed to coordinate partial policies.

Improvement of the infrastructure of a country is another national concern. The still marked imbalance between the various regions of Lebanon. In remedying this situation, financial means will be of the greatest importance. Development expenditure is going to a deficit on the budget, and the authorities are already examining means of financing it by introducing new tax-raising loans from Arab countries.

Last, plans are afoot for the promotion of an international market. The Association of Banks in Lebanon is in conjunction with the authorities holding a seminar in November, 1974 to experts from all over the world have been invited.

The author is secretary of the Association of Banks in Lebanon and former director of economics at the University of Saint Joseph, Beirut.

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Stock Exchange in session—part of the financial structure which makes Lebanon an attractive proposition for foreign investment.

Relaxation of industrial and exchange controls helps steady growth

As a result of the relaxation of industrial and exchange controls, Lebanon has seen a steady increase in the standard of living and purchasing power of its nearly 100 million people who still need most of the things that modern life brings. It is obvious that a suitable country for such investments should be within easy reach of these markets. It should have a good record of political stability and of international relations and future investments and good communications. Lebanon, too, will benefit from the enormous increase in the standard of living and purchasing power of its nearly 100 million people who still need most of the things that modern life brings.

Lebanon has an area of no more than 10,400 sq km its reputation is that of a leader in the Middle East in trade, services and industry. Mineral resources are scarce and although it is said that iron ore exists in small quantities it remains to be seen whether these can be economically processed. Oil, although present in the whole area, has not so far been found in Lebanon but it accommodates the terminals of the two pipelines, one coming from Saudi Arabia and ending in Sidon and the other coming from Iraq and ending in Tripoli. The refineries at these terminals provide the country with its petrol and fuel. Although the Lebanese economy relies heavily on the trade and services sectors (about 65 per cent of the gross national product), industry's share has been growing steadily, and recently reached about 20 per cent.

Iron and copper foundries, for the production of taps, valves and pipes, exist, as well as tanning, leather and shoe industries, and producers of plastics of all kinds, extending from packing materials to pipes and, recently, furniture. The marble and onyx cutting industry has developed considerably over the past five years and is an important export winner, as are the steel and aluminium industries which have taken advantage of the building boom of the past eight years. The textile industry employs probably the biggest number of workers (20,000) and although by custom dominated by cotton spinning and weaving, has diversified recently into synthetic fibre spinning, knitting, dyeing and finishing. The individual units are small compared to their European equivalents, but they show a remarkable ability to adapt themselves to the challenges of world tastes and trends. The clothing industry is fast developing too, and seems to be dependent mostly on exports to Europe and the Middle East.

Other banks, which have been created over the past two years with the participation of foreign banks and encouraged by favourable tax laws, seem to be providing small industry with the sort of credit needed. Labour, which is the main factor in the development of Lebanese industry, is still fairly plentiful and skilled. Of all the countries of the Arab Middle East Lebanon is probably the only one where skilled labour is available on the spot. Technical and professional schools teach electrical, chemical and other employees are covered by accident and sickness insurance, family allowances and end-of-service indemnities, the total of which is 22½ per cent of the wage and is paid by the employer and the social security organization. Labour relations, in spite of increasing union activity over the past two or three years, are still good by European standards, and although the unions have recently increased the frequency and size of their demands they are still prepared to negotiate reasonable terms.

The chemical and pharmaceutical industries are also becoming significant, and although the first is dominated by a large fertilizer plant producing superphosphates, nitrates and sulphuric acid mainly for export, the latter consists of a few dozen small plants, usually operating as joint ventures with American or European companies. It is relevant to mention the encouragement given by successive governments to industrial investment since Lebanon became independent in 1943. Increased customs duties on imported goods that are produced locally, although not prohibitive, constitute an important help for all infant industries.

The various governments have also introduced legislation encouraging investment in new industries by way of income tax holidays for periods of six years, and up to 10 years in the case of investment in undeveloped areas. Reinvestment in existing industries is encouraged by the granting of tax holidays for four years on half of all declared net profits that are ploughed back into new equipment or into social investment. Preferential tariff rates have been negotiated with almost all Arab governments for Lebanese exports. These range from 25 per cent to almost 100 per cent reductions of normal tariffs. The lack of medium-term and long-term lending institutions, which was a serious deficiency of the Lebanese banking scene, has been rectified by recent legislation encouraging commercial banks to set up such facilities, and the Government has started a mixed equity industrial development bank with the participation of almost all the commercial banks operating in the country. This institution provides medium-term and long-term credit on favourable terms to industry and seems to be working efficiently, although it cannot lend more than 10 per cent of its capital to any individual

company. Pressure is being applied at the moment for the capital to be doubled to £Leb60m. There is no doubt that much still needs to be done in developing technical, professional and engineering schools to satisfy the demands of Lebanese and Middle East industry, and there is an increasing awareness of this need, both at government and professional level. Wage rates are still reasonable compared to those in Europe, although much higher than others in the area; the minimum basic wage for unskilled labourers is equivalent to £13 for a 48-hour week. Social security laws have been introduced since 1965 and industrial workers and

It is accepted that the rise in the standard of living over the past 15 years in Lebanon, contrasted with the neighbouring countries is due primarily to the complete liberty that characterizes the economy. The lack of exchange controls, the freedom of movement of the Lebanese, the development of the banking as well as of the tourist sector, contributed to making the per capita income about \$600 in 1972; it is estimated at \$1,000 this year.

The big industrial expansion, both in varieties of products and the amount of investment, did not occur until the late 1960s, when there was a large influx of funds from Arab nationals as well as Lebanese emigrants' money returning from African and other countries. The closure of the Suez Canal contributed to making Japanese and Far Eastern goods more expensive and more difficult to obtain. Since the Arab-Israeli war of 1967 and the increased Arab nationalism, which made Lebanese goods all the more attractive in Arab eyes, industry has diversified and it is estimated that from a meagre £Leb60m worth in 1960 industrial exports will reach nearly £Leb1,000m at the end of this year.

The food industries seem to be the leaders in terms of capital invested and value of goods sold. Their products include such things as the *tahneh* (sesame cream), biscuits, chocolates, sweets, macaroni and other pasta, as well as tinned fruit and vegetables, and wines, soft drinks and mineral water. As for the building industry, two factories produce enough cement for the requirements of the country and export about 35 per cent of their production to Syria, North Africa and the

Large influx of Arab funds
Investment in industry began before the Second World War, with the emphasis on cement and textiles, as is usually the case in developing countries, soon followed by the food processing. The big profits achieved during and just after the war encouraged these industries to reinvest and expand, and they were followed by a multitude of industries, primarily set up to produce import substitutes.

Income tax holidays
The various governments have also introduced legislation encouraging investment in new industries by way of income tax holidays for periods of six years, and up to 10 years in the case of investment in undeveloped areas. Reinvestment in existing industries is encouraged by the granting of tax holidays for four years on half of all declared net profits that are ploughed back into new equipment or into social investment.

The author is vice-president of the Lebanese Industrialists Association.

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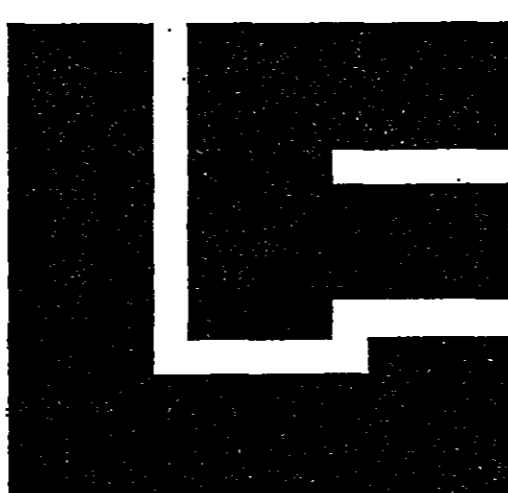
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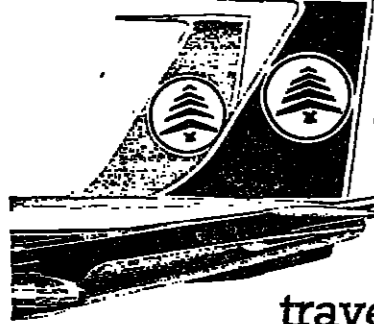
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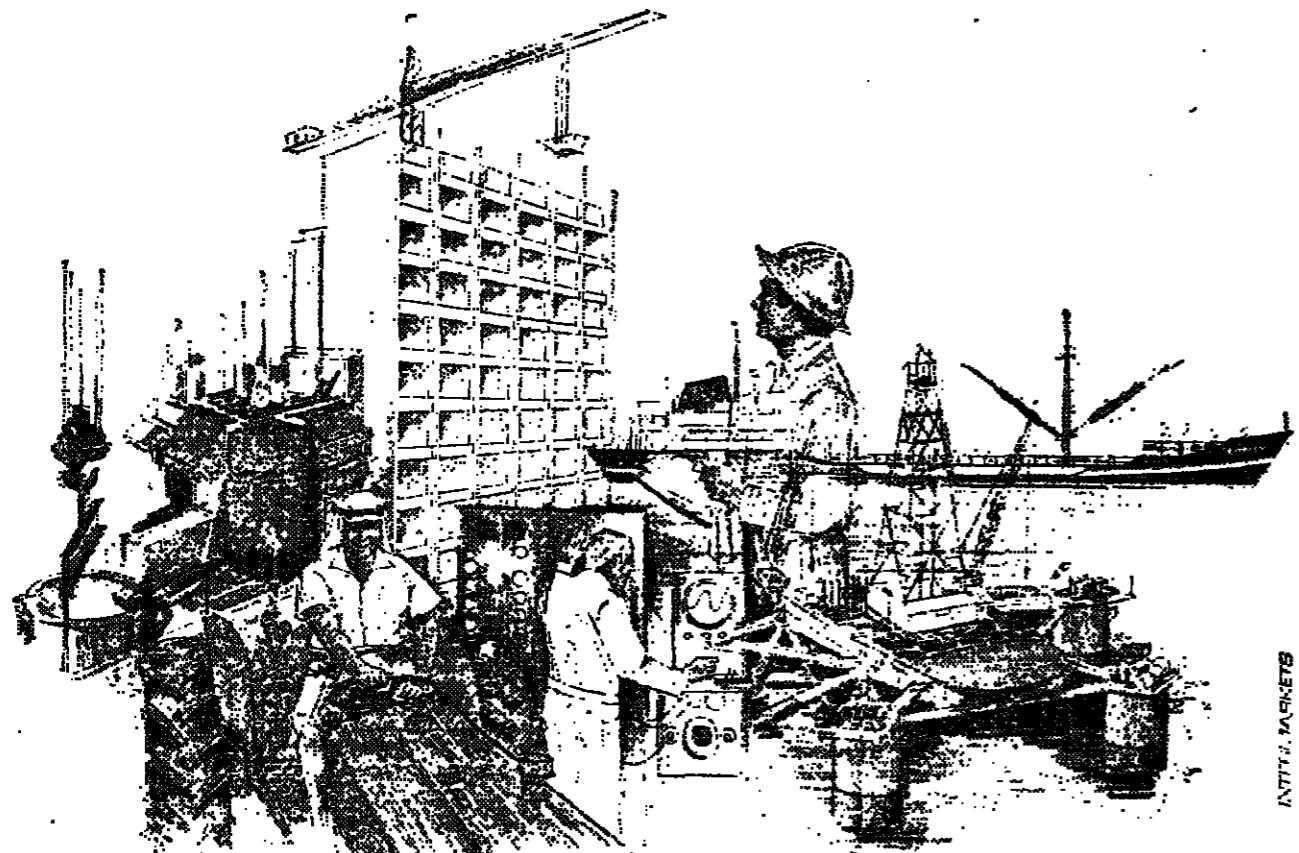
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Tighter curbs started foreign scramble for banks

by Youssef Azmeh

The foreign scramble for Lebanon's banks is almost over. If you want to buy a bank there you most probably have missed your chance. Nearly all those that could be taken over have already been acquired and Beirut banking sources say that only two or perhaps three of the 73 commercial banks could still change hands. Of the 16 leading banks, only two now remain wholly domestically owned. The trend towards increased foreign ownership of Lebanon's banks began long before the oil price explosion last year but six banks have been taken over since the beginning of 1974, leaving only 29 banks with a majority Lebanese interest. Of the others, 27 were foreign-controlled Lebanese joint stock companies and the rest, 17, were branches of foreign banks.

The trend started in the late 1960s when, in the aftermath of the intra-Bank liquidity crisis, the Government passed legislation tightening controls over banking methods and procedures. There were more than 90 banks in Beirut then. Some went into liquidation, either voluntarily or compulsorily, while others found a way out by bringing in foreign capital who provided capital and management.

As the new regulations discouraged the setting up of new banks in the country, those foreign banks interested in entering the Lebanese market found a way in by buying a stake in one of

the weaker Lebanese banks. Almost every international bank has an interest in one of Lebanon's banks. Nearly every Arab state has an interest in one or more of Lebanon's banks. Communist states are also well represented. The latest banking takeover was by Poland's Bank Handlowy Warszawa, and China is said to be seeking to establish its foreign trade bank in Beirut.

Many of Lebanon's leading banks have been resistant to the foreign invasion, but there seemed to be little they could do. Except for the few banks at the top, most of Lebanon's domestically-owned banks were too weak to resist the overtures of their wealthy foreign counterparts. They were mostly simple money lending shops which knew little of the complex operations of a bank.

The Government could not legislate against the invasion because that would have been contrary to its declared principles of free enterprise and free movement of capital. The problem was similar to that of property. Foreigners, mainly other Arabs, have bought a lot of real estate in Lebanon since the Second World War. With the growth in oil revenues many rich Arabs bought land in Lebanon as an investment.

This raised an outcry among Lebanese nationalists (as distinct from Arab nationalists) who feared that control over large tracts of the country might fall into the hands of foreigners. The agitation led to the passing of legislation which imposed a

tax of 10 per cent of the value of real estate on any foreign buyer. Whereas agitation against the buying of land by foreigners came mainly from the right, that against the foreign bankers' invasion comes from both right and left. The left opposes the trend as a matter of principle since it is seen as "an invasion by the international monopolies".

Those on the right see it from a nationalistic viewpoint, abhorring the fall of a key sector of the economy into foreign hands. A tax similar to that on property purchase has been urged and there have been moves to expel the foreign banks from the Bankers Association or to deny them full membership.

Results for 1973 of commercial banks operating in Lebanon—that is before the foreign takeover of six more banks—showed, according to a survey published by the Continental Development Bank, a subsidiary of Continental Illinois, that branches of foreign banks held 35 per cent of total deposits of \$2,677,490,000. Foreign-controlled banks held 37 per cent of deposits and Lebanese-controlled banks held the remaining 28 per cent.

Branches of foreign banks had claims to 33 per cent of the loans outstanding at the end of the year of \$1,666,048,000 while foreign-controlled banks had claims to 39 per cent and Lebanese banks to 28 per cent. The same survey showed that whereas the proportion of

net capital to risk assets stood at more than 10 per cent for Lebanese banks, it was only 4.5 per cent for foreign-controlled banks and 3.1 per cent for branches of foreign banks. There will always protest against the dominance of bank interest is not in related to Lebanon. However, there is the participation of the development of itself. There are medium and finance banks operating in Lebanon although most of them are not in the area, some of the best are in Lebanon. Foreign banks have participated in the creation of these banks some of concern for I. own future.

Lebanese banking (as at December 31, 1973, in \$'m million)

	All banks (72)	branches of foreign banks (17)	foreign-controlled banks (20)
Total assets	11,174	3,880	4,351
%	100	34.81	38.94
Total deposits	7,490	2,647	2,763
%	100	35.34	36.88
Total loans	6,043	2,000	2,360
%	100	33.07	39.02
cash & due from banks to deposits	63.79%	68.53%	67.24%
cash & due from banks to liabilities	44.77%	47.78%	44.32%
liabilities less cash & banks to risk assets	94.19	96.87	95.06
net capital to risk assets	6.90	3.12	4.93
total assets to total deposits	27.63	31.91	26.21
capital funds to deposits	6.71	3.55	5.83
loans to deposits	80.74	75.55	85.41

Source: Continental Development Bank SAL, Beirut

Big expansion plans for Middle East financial centre

by Margaret Clayton

For more than 20 years Beirut has enjoyed a privileged position as the financial centre of the Middle East. Many factors have contributed to the success of Lebanon's banking sector. Some are endemic, such as the country's key geographical position at the crossroads to three continents, its role as a transit country, the natural astuteness of its people and their aptitude for languages. Others were the result of hazard or good luck. Political fluctuations in the area, which included the nationalization of banks in Egypt and Syria, brought Beirut an increase of banking business which it might not otherwise have enjoyed.

The many freedoms of the country—political, religious, economic as well as financial—have helped to attract and strengthen foreign deposits. Beirut's free money market, freedom of capital transfers, total convertibility of the Lebanese pound—still immensely strong in relation to other currencies—the adoption of rigid banking secrecy laws and the watch-guard activities of the central bank over credit facilities have endorsed Lebanon's claim to be "the Switzerland of the Middle East" in the field of banking operations.

Banking has always made a considerable contribution to Lebanon's economy. Substantial inflows of funds from Lebanese emigrants returning from Africa, have helped growth in recent years. The oil boom which has brought the country its share of the oil revenues, and the recent dramatic invasion of the banking sector by foreigners now see Lebanon on the eve of a concerted bid to expand and internationalize its thriving banking industry.

Banking began in Lebanon in a small way more than 50 years ago when the country, together with Syria, came under the French mandate after the 1914-18 war. The Imperial Ottoman Bank passed to the Banque du Syrie et du Liban which was entrusted with the issue of banknotes. The bank also fulfilled the purpose of a temporary central bank, advising the Government on money transfers and credit operations, which banks installed themselves slowly in Beirut, headed by the Banco di Roma and later, the British Bank of the Middle East. By the late 1940s, after Lebanon had obtained its independence, foreign banks had a foothold in Beirut and several small local banks, which were either exchanges or discount houses owned by private individuals, were established. Many of these smaller banks, whose names reflected the pioneers of Lebanese banking, have been engulfed in the recent takeover by foreign bankers. Several banks existed in Aleppo, in northern Syria, but the financial transactions of Damascus were easily handled by Beirut near by.

In 1951 the Syrians insisted on an economic rupture with Lebanon and it became no longer feasible for businessmen to engage in their previous activities in Syria. This was followed by nationalization of Syria's banking system. The banks in Lebanon were progressively strengthened, foreign

control over the banking increased. By the late 1950s Beirut had become the financial centre of the Middle East. "The urge to have one's own bank here became acute", a Beirut banker says ironically. The half-mile square of territory around Beirut's central Riad el Solh Square became a conglomeration of banking enterprises, internationally-famous banking names elbowing small Lebanese family concerns, while a marketplace of exchange booths dealt with the expanding tourist industry and businessmen in transit. Bankers were drawn to Beirut by the laissez-faire manner of banking it offered: there were virtually no restrictions on the establishment of new banks and no central bank to control operations. Outwardly the banking system may have looked muddled and fragmentary, but, like many Lebanese institutions, it seemed to work well. At the same time, Arab capital began to flow into Beirut as it became, with its mild summer hill climate, the Bournemouth of the Middle East for Arabs from neighbouring states. The hill towns behind Beirut took on the aspect of foreign colonies, wealthy Saudis and Kuwaitis installing themselves in flats and summer residences for as long as three months at a time.

of transactions recovered from only \$1,625,000,000 in 1969 to \$4,377,000,000 in 1972. At its peak, before the intra crash, Beirut boasted 86 banks of all denominations. There are now 74, with some 300 branches, and the Government, alarmed by the foreign invasion of the banking system, has placed a moratorium on the setting up of new banks. The past two years have entirely transformed the Lebanese banking scene. As oil prices in the neighbouring Arab countries began to multiply with breathtaking speed a swarm of foreign bankers descended on Beirut in an attempt to grab some of the oil money as it is channelled through the capital. In 1972 banking deposits rose by \$1,500,000,000 in five months, but at the time the deposit holdings of the purely Lebanese banks had been reduced to only 29 per cent of the deposits total.

Because of the Government's moratorium foreign bankers have had to buy their way—sometimes with majority, sometimes with minority shares—into existing Lebanese banks. These have been falling to the foreign interests at the rate of roughly one a month—Americans leading the field. "Banks which would never consider taking such a step elsewhere have been willing to take a minority share in Lebanese banks in the hope of gaining a majority proportion later", a Beirut banker said.

Meanwhile, new bankers arriving almost daily in Beirut are keeping a watchful eye on the stragglers of the system, who may need foreign funds to keep going. A recent law increasing the compulsory paid-up capital of a Beirut bank from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 has been instrumental in deterring some foreign bankers in.

To give only a few examples: a Luxembourg bank bought 80 per cent of the Charrout Bank, Beirut, in January, while in February the Toronto Dominion Bank bought a majority of the shares of the Banque des Cedres. The Fuji Bank of Tokyo opened an office in Beirut in January, the Bank of Montreal an office in March.

In February the Arab Finance Company, with capital of \$1,600,000, was launched by a group of Lebanese, Japanese and American banks. Arabs hold 54 per cent of its capital, while the rest is shared between Europeans and Americans. This company is to finance big projects and business promotions and undertake activities in fields not yet developed or exploited by local banks. A prime deficiency of the domestic banking system is that it has been in the past geared almost entirely to short-term loans and projects.

The foreign "invasion" at first welcomed by the banking sector as giving a much-needed boost in knowledge to the local system, has now become an avalanche. Cries of alarm from Lebanese economists, politicians and journalists, as well as from the bankers themselves, are beginning to be translated into action. Lebanese bankers now see, far on the horizon, the possibility that the violent financial upheaval of the area might wrest the banking palm from their grasp. Kuwait is already suggested as a possible contender. Most foreign bankers are sceptical since Kuwait, they claim, is lacking in the supporting services needed to establish a banking centre of international standing.

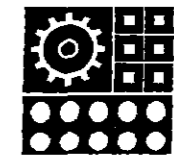
More complex lines

Banking now began to develop along more complex lines. Beirut had become a focal point between East and West, had a well-educated population with considerable contacts with the West and fair communications. The banking secrecy system, started in 1956 on roughly Swiss lines was an encouragement to investors, particularly those from neighbouring Syria. A joint account system had been launched three years earlier. This, too, provided greater security for businessmen.

The belated formation of the central bank, the Bank of Lebanon, in 1963—Egypt had already a central bank in 1951, Syria in 1953—led to increased confidence in the Lebanese monetary system. The bank's capital of \$1,615m is subscribed by the Government. Criticism of the central bank was inevitably levelled after the Itrra Bank collapse of 1966, which was followed by the liquidation of about 15 other banks. The Banking Control Commission, set up in 1967, now receives monthly returns from every bank about its liquid funds and details of all debtors over \$3,500.

Don't think the central bank was at all responsible for the intra crash", says Mr Frank Gosling, general manager of the Banque de l'Industrie et du Travail, who has been in Beirut since 1948. "Remember, the bank had been in operation for only two years when the crash came. Since then it has always been helpful when needed and is now extremely vigilant in controlling banking operations."

Though confidence was badly shaken for some time figures had begun to pick up by 1970. Total bank loans stood at \$1,417m in 1972 a rise of 81.25 per cent over the 1969 figure. Deposits, similarly, rose by 85.73 per cent in this three-year period. At the Beirut Stock Exchange the value



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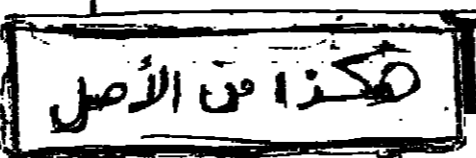
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monetary policy makes credit scarcer but healthier

Nasrallah

of the decline in interest rates which began towards the end of 1970, and the generalization of floating exchange rates which, for the saver anxious to find stable investments, offered less security than fixed rates. The fact is that bank assets increased at an average monthly rate of £1.25m, occasionally rising substantially above this level.

This abundance of money created a twofold problem: on the one hand it encouraged excessive financing

of the various sectors of the economy, with all the inflationary consequences, and on the other it placed pressure on the exchange rate of the Lebanese pound, which appreciated against other currencies. A new monetary policy was introduced in May 1974 to deal with these problems.

In 1973 the volume of loans rose to almost £1.4m, more than the total leading over the five previous years. In relative terms, the increase was 43 per cent, a level never attained previously. An idea

of the scale of this increase can be obtained from a comparison with the increases in the same type of financing recorded elsewhere during the same period: no more than 20 per cent in the United States and Japan, and less in France and West Germany.

The Central Bank, convinced of the inflationary nature of this financing, has introduced the following measures: as early as September 1972 it raised the level of compulsory reserves from 5 per cent to 7 per cent; and from June 1973 it virtually discontinued all intervention on the foreign exchange market, allowing the Lebanese pound to move with the market.

More recently, last June, it took further steps to reinforce these measures. It raised the rediscount rate from 5 per cent to 7 per cent and the interest rate from 5 1/2 per cent to 7 1/2 per cent on purchases of pawned bills. It raised the rate of interest on current account loans as referred to in article 102 of the Currency and Credit Code from 7 per cent to 9 per cent and increased the compulsory reserves which banks must hold to cover their commitments from 7 per cent to 8 per cent from July 1, 1974.

The bank introduced a new graduated reserve applicable to investments which became compulsory from July 1, 1974 also, but has retroactive effect to the end of 1973. The conditions are: 5 per cent on the first 10 per cent of the running total of investments at December 31, 1973, 7 per cent on the tranche between 10 per cent and 15 per cent, 10 per cent on the tranche between 15 per cent and 20 per cent and, finally, 40 per cent on the tranche above 20 per cent.

Exemption from the requirement to form reserves under this new regulation is extended to the medium and long-term credit banks set up under law 22/67 of April 21, 1967 and to foreign exchange loans to category one

non-residents. The effect of this policy has been to make credit scarcer but undeniably healthier in Lebanon.

The Lebanese pound has risen steadily since 1971. Its performance in relation to the major currencies of the world is shown in the table, which is taken from the 1973 annual report of the Association of Lebanese Banks.

A particularly significant feature of this table is the steady rise of the Lebanese pound against the US dollar (2.89 per cent in 1971, 4.58 per cent in 1972 and 15.62 per cent in 1973, having gone higher in June) which was brought about by the two official devaluations of the dollar and its subsequent effective depreciation on the foreign exchange market.

The causes lie in the imbalance between capital supply and demand on the Beirut market, which in turn is attributable to a combination of various factors not shown clearly by official statistics.

The excessive supply may be attributed to the massive influx of capital from Lebanese emigrants, from the Arab world and from elsewhere; repatriation of assets previously invested on the Eurodollar market; conversion by private individuals or companies of foreign currency deposits into Lebanese pounds; reduction by the banks of their foreign exchange positions.

Logically the Central Bank's reaction through its monetary policy was designed to shift the pressure of demand away from the Lebanese pound to other foreign currencies. Accord-

ingly, foreign currency bank deposits were progressively exempted from the compulsory reserve requirement; on the other hand, non-residents' Lebanese pound holdings were penalized because they were no longer producing interest.

In parallel with these measures, the Central Bank launched a policy of massive buying-up of dollars on the local market which caused the dollar to rise in a few days from 220 to 240 piastres, which now seems to be the exchange rate at which deals are being struck.

This prepared the ground for the much-discussed Bill on the financial free zone designed to exempt foreign currency deposits and commitments for non-residents from the income tax charged on bank interest; the compulsory reserve; the due charged on behalf of the Institut National de Garantie des Dépôts.

It is being asked whether it would not be possible to extend this threefold exemption from taxes and charges to all foreign currency accounts rather than restricting it to non-residents. A category which is difficult to distinguish in a country where there is total freedom for foreign exchange. Such a move, it is claimed, would weaken the Lebanese pound against foreign currencies. However, this fear would be unfounded if the terms of the Act authorized the monetary authorities to use such a general exemption as a short-term policy instrument that could be modified in the light of circumstances.

Percentage depreciation (-) or appreciation (+) of the Lebanese pound in relation to the pound sterling, the dollar, the Deutsche mark, the Swiss franc, the French franc and the yen.

Currency	Percentage in 1971	Percentage in 1972	Percentage in 1973
Dollar	2.89	4.58	15.62
Pound sterling	-3.51	12.16	17.51
Deutsche mark	-8.32	2.59	1.28
Swiss franc	-7.08	0.88	3.20
French franc	-2.51	2.60	12.59
Yen	-	0.30	10.01

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The secret of success

Anthony Rowley

Without good cause is often termed the city of the Middle East. It is the banking city of the Arab world at least because of the Banking Secrecy Law which Lebanon introduced in 1956 and which made Beirut the major city for funds in the Middle East.

The law allows for secret accounts identified by number only, though legal action has since ruled that some degree of secrecy is available to ordinary numbered accounts under Lebanese law. The law of secrecy provided for anything under banking practice, probably only Switzerland has any similar legal provision.

It is implicit in the system that the identity of secret account holders cannot be generally known though certainly Lebanese merchants and the nationals of other East states involved in production. Beirut's on as a centre free of any control preceded the 1956 Act which, in view of the size of personal assets, was designed to force the normal banking of discretion. As Switzerland, Lebanon knows a breach of this ethical Banking Secrecy Law issued in Lebanon in 1956 and was adopted in the year. Its objective was to attract Arab capital to Lebanon, where the new would prevent government or other agencies obtaining financial information on banks' customers and depositors.

The main point of this is one Beirut banker it is that it allows in Lebanon to open secret accounts for their owners. The secret account is one identified by number only. Only the banker is supposed to know the name of the owner of a particular secret account.

Usually when a customer wants to have a secret account, the banker will handle the opening of the account," the banker said. "The manager ask the current account department for a number. He then enters this number with the name of the customer to whom the account is assigned, in a special book, called the numbered accounts or secret account book.

Then the manager will issue a serial number to the account. This number for the manager's reference only, and is entered in the secret account book. Information about a customer will be entered into the numbered account book in relation to residence, occupation,

one of the leading western banks operating in the Middle East sought the view of a legal expert.

He ruled that "all accounts and affairs of account holders under the law benefit automatically from the provisions of the Banking Secrecy Law. From the moment any account whatsoever is opened with any banking establishment mentioned under the law, it is automatically treated with absolute secrecy."

Those bank clients wanting additional protection could ask for a numbered account, added the legal commentator. But he emphasized that "it should not be supposed that only numbered accounts would benefit from the Banking Secrecy Law". Ordinary accounts were covered equally.

A further commentary on the same law makes another important point. This is that shareholders of the banks covered by the law do not enjoy the same secrecy privilege. Banks may not claim protection under the law when they are asked to declare to the authorities the names of shares belonging to a disreputable shareholder.

It is interesting to compare the Lebanese banking law with British banking practice. All authorized banks in the United Kingdom keep their customers' affairs secret to the extent that they require every member of their staffs to sign a declaration of secrecy.

A banker can be discharged from this duty in certain circumstances laid down by the courts, however. The case of *Tournier v National Provincial Bank* in 1924 gave instances in which a banker must reveal information about his customers.

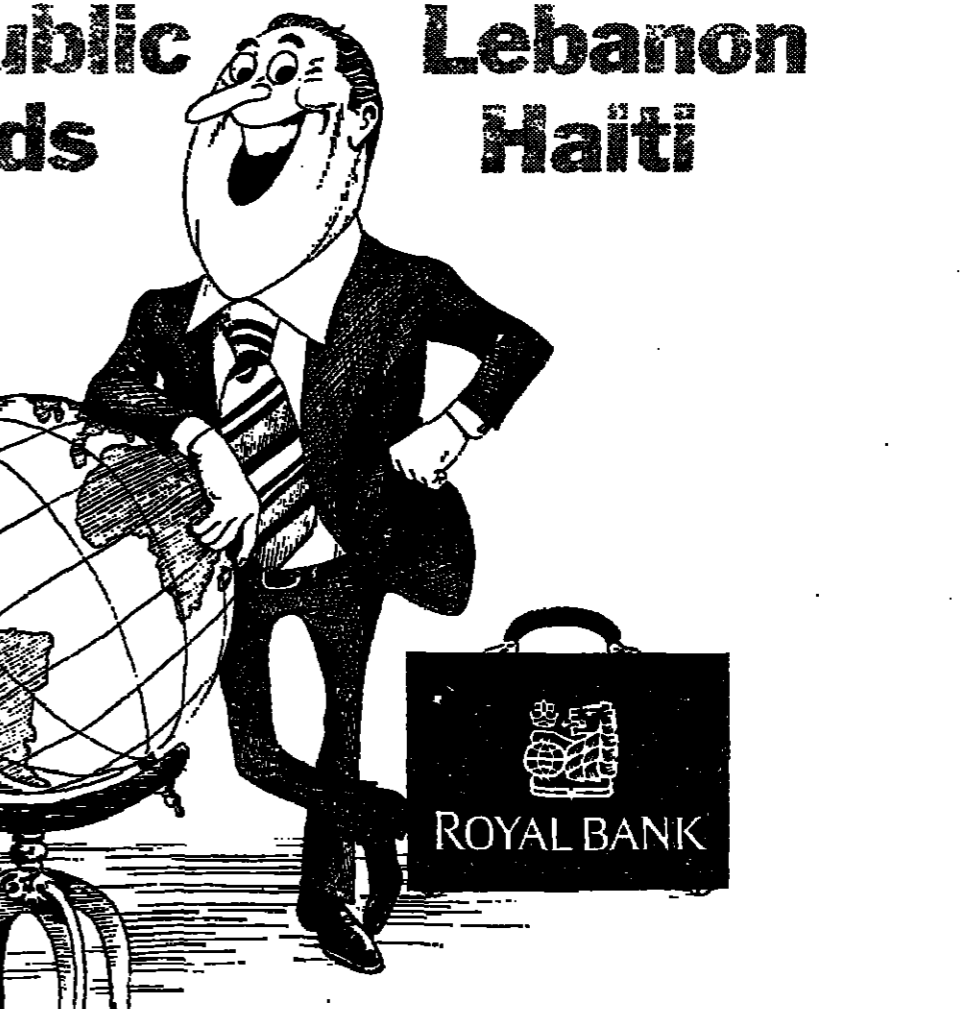
The first of these is disclosure under the compulsion of law. The Bankers Book Evidence Act, for example, enables the police to obtain an order under this Act so that they can obtain information from the banks on their customers' affairs.

Moreover the Inland Revenue may obtain information from the banks on interest paid on deposit accounts, when the amount concerned is more than £15. Disclosure of information must also be made where the public interest requires it, such as in a national emergency. Disclosure is also permitted when the interest of the bank requires it, to allow the issue of a writ for repayment of an overdraft for example. There is no stipulated penalty for infringement of the banking secrecy code in Britain, however, according to the Banking Information Service.

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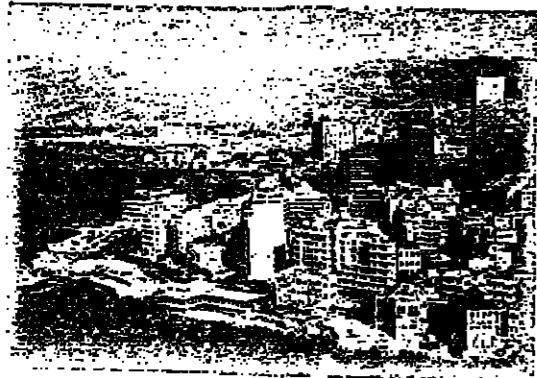
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'Fair minded' Britain is seen as a valued friend

by Paul Martin
Middle East
Correspondent

To steer a steady course in hazardous Middle East waters is a difficult, if not impossible, task. For a country like Lebanon the difficulties are as complicated as its political make-up. Since it is the only free political arena in the Arab world, forces from within and without have long tried to tip the balance one way or the other. And political balance has been the principal ingredient of Lebanon's success as the area's business centre.

The only non-combatant Arab country sharing a border with Israel, Lebanon nevertheless hardly enjoys a week without Israel forays into its territory. Sometimes this has resulted in the country coming dangerously close to the brink.

The alternative would be to court the Palestinian guerrillas. However, with more than 300,000 Palestinian refugees an integral part of the country's social fabric, and with the rest of the Arab world ever watchful, this could be suicide.

For long Lebanon has relied on its western allies in times of crisis. With a tiny army there is no other choice. While the Arab combatants have depended on the Soviet Union for political and military support in the conflict, Lebanon has appealed to a wider audience: the friends of Israel, its enemies, or just neutrals.

Indeed, so important was diplomacy regarded by the country's political leadership that it was frequently said that Lebanon's strength was in its weakness.

But there are bitter disappointments. Ironically, the most recent has been in Lebanon's relations with its chief ally, the United States. The point of contention was the Palestinians.

President Suleiman Franjeh was elected by the Arab summit to speak for the Arab world on the occasion of the debut of the Palestine Liberation Organisation at the United Nations. The choice seemed appropriate enough; he represented a non-combatant country which played host to Palestinian refugees and he was the only Christian leader.

Although it was Mr Franjeh's first visit to the United States as President of his country, he was not given any special treatment as head of state. Was it because of his mission? Or did the

Americans feel that since his visit was to the United Nations and not to the United States protocol did not provide for such treatment?

Whatever the case, the diplomatic importance did not go unnoticed by the Lebanese. So, angered by such an apparent slight from an erstwhile friend, Mr Franjeh is said to have refused an invitation from President Ford to a meeting.

However, the resilience which is so much part of the Lebanese character can be seen in its conduct of foreign relations. If the account of President Franjeh's reaction to his reception in the United States is correct, then it exemplifies Lebanon's confidence. More than most, successive Lebanese governments have realized the value of friends and the policy has been actively to seek them.

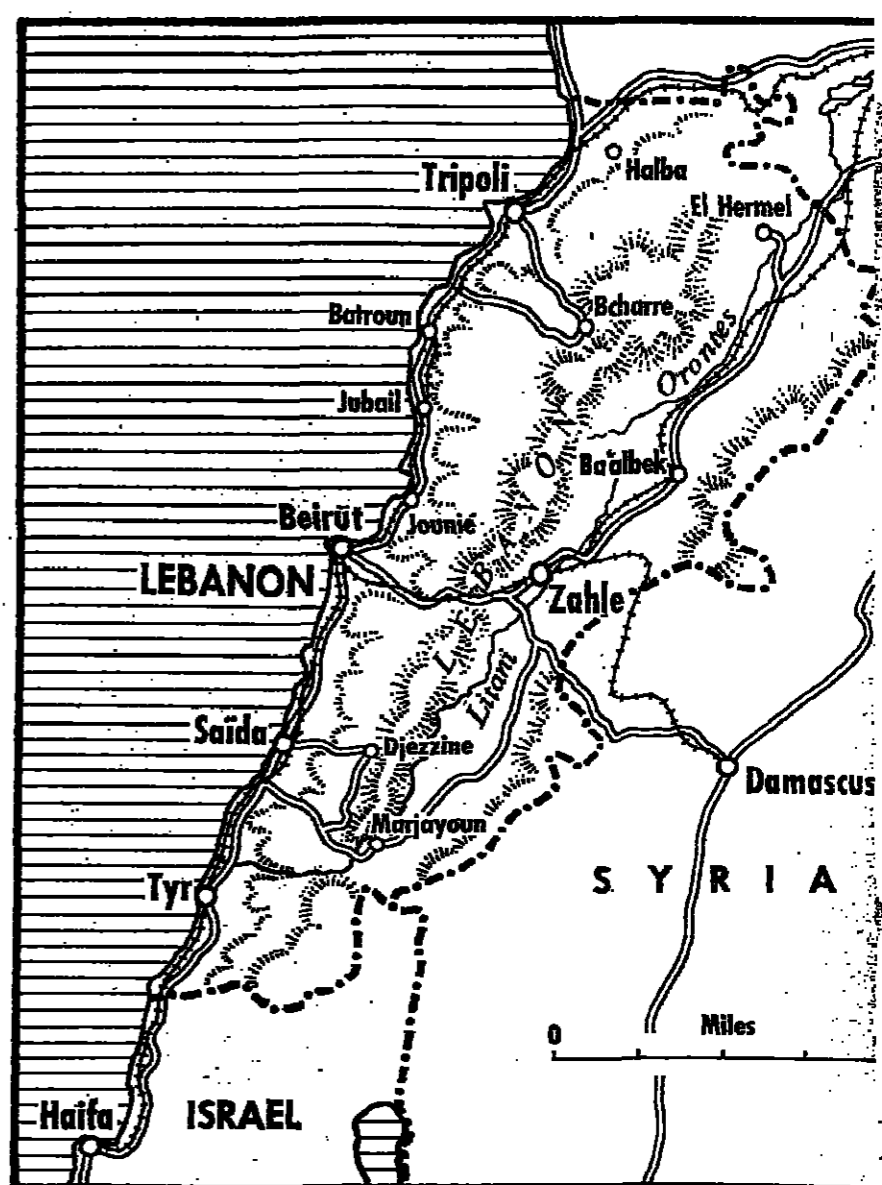
As in the country's education system, there are two main schools in contacts abroad. For historic reasons there is a strong French tradition. In times of crisis, when there are threats to the country's security, the Lebanese look to, and know they will win the full support of, the French. Indeed, there have been times when the Lebanese attitude has almost been that of turning to a mother country.

On the other hand, there is a recognition that the friend with the greatest diplomatic and military power is the United States. It was after all, the United States which intervened militarily in the country in 1958 when Nasserite subversion from Syria threatened to overturn the existing order.

Things have changed since then. However, the Lebanese are well aware that in the deadly game of an eye for an eye played between Israel and the guerrillas across its borders it is to the Americans that they must appeal.

Of late Lebanon has sought increasing support from another western friend, Britain. No less dramatic than its relations with France or with America, those with Britain are valued. From a Lebanese point of view, Britain's stance on the Middle East problem represents a "fair-mindedness" which is appreciated.

Lebanese newspapers watch with satisfaction the tinge and froing of British ministers and parliamentarians centred upon Beirut, whether they be fact-finding or strictly business missions. In an ever-changing Middle



East, Lebanon's political complexion is one of the few exceptions. Gone are the Baghdad Pact days when the country was part of the western grand design. The Lebanese now take a warmer view of the East block.

The Soviet Union lends welcome support at the United Nations when the Lebanese find themselves under fire and there has been steady progress in relations not only with the Soviet Union but with the East block countries generally. The same applies to Peking - yet another voice in times of need.

Certainly more complicated, and no less important, are Lebanon's relations with the rest of the Arab world. The end of the Nasser era paid part to the virulent revolutionary one-upmanship that threatened to engulf Lebanon. Today Lebanon en-

joys excellent relations with most Arab countries, including both Egypt and Syria, with which it was at loggerheads in the dark old days.

In the present political climate few feel that there are any serious Arab revolutionary designs on Lebanon as such. Of course the Arab world has its trouble-makers. However, the one internal matter that has a direct bearing on Lebanon's important relations with the rest of the Arab world is the Palestine issue. As past crises with the guerrillas in the country have shown, this is an emotive issue in Arab forums.

An upheaval in inter-Arab relations soon has its effects on valuable entrepôt trade, not to mention long-term effects on the flow of capital and investments. However, the Lebanese are well aware of where their ultimate interests lie.

Every effort is made to avoid conflicts, to the extent that Lebanon can bring undisciplined elements into line. The choice of Mr Franjeh to speak on behalf of the Arab world is a Lebanese success.

However, in a world where international play such an important role there are the dissonant voices. For instance, the Lebanese preach an end to Lebanon's dependence on outside aid and international support in the conflict with Israel. Lebanon, he contends that they will achieve it. However, he is one of many voices in the world.

Bold projects but telecommunications struggle to keep pace with increasing needs

by Faris Glubb

The telecommunications problem in Lebanon evokes the familiar metaphor of a man who runs up a downward escalator in an effort to stay in the same place. Despite impressive achievements and ambitious projects, the country's needs are expanding faster than its telecommunications facilities.

One reason for this is the recent economic boom which shows no sign of abating because of repatriation of emigrants' capital and the larger sums available to Arab oil-

producing states whose citizens consider Lebanon a good country for investment. Another problem is that implementation of plans has sometimes been haphazard, with the authorities launching a bold new improvement but then failing to follow it up with less spectacular measures necessary to ensure that full use is made of it.

An example of this is the satellite tracking station at Arbanieh, 20 km from Beirut. Brought into use in 1969, this was one of the first ground stations constructed outside the major industrialized countries. It dramatically improved Lebanon's telephones and telex communications with the outside world and was expected to make Beirut the unchallenged modern communications centre of the Middle East.

Initially it was set to track the Atlantic satellite and used for communications to Western Europe and America until the completion of the submarine cable to Marseilles in 1970. The ground station was then switched to the Indian Ocean satellite, and now handles communications eastwards as far as Australia and Japan with speed and efficiency through the use of compatible circuit links guaranteeing 10 per cent circuit redundancy at any time. Another antenna is being considered to enable the station to link up once again with the Atlantic satellite and meet the rapidly growing demand for westward calls.

The potential of the ground station is not fully exploited. For instance, a common complaint by the bureaux of foreign television networks in Lebanon is that they still cannot transmit colour film from it. In this respect, Lebanon has been overtaken by Jordan and is being overtaken by Kuwait. Beirut's facilities are often contrasted with those of Tel Aviv, from where colour film can be transmitted, and this puts the Arabs at a disadvantage in the propaganda side of the Arab-Israeli conflict as far as "hot" news is concerned.

Another bold initiative by the Lebanese authorities to improve international telecommunications, the Marseilles submarine cable, is also operating below its potential capacity and is being expanded by a further 120 circuits are being expanded to 160 by altering transmission frequencies.

The main problem is the very small capacity of Beirut's existing international switching centre. A new centre is required with at least 2,500-circuit capacity, 2,000-circuit capacity, and a more than 20 times the size

of the present one. Such a centre would enable the direct-dialling system to France and the United States (theoretically in operation, but hampered by shortage of circuits) to come into full operation, and also ensure the success of future cable projects.

These include a 480-circuit cable to Cyprus, which it is envisaged would link up with Western Europe through Greece. Lebanese engineers say an additional cable direct to Western Europe will be needed in the near future to cope with the expected rapid increase in traffic.

The internal telephone system is as overloaded as the international one. Indeed, it is a common complaint among Lebanese that they can obtain a call to Australia more rapidly and easily than to a village outside Beirut.

The telephone network consists of some 60 local exchanges and 230,000 lines of which 140,000 are in the greater Beirut area (a ratio of approximately one to 10 to the local population). About 158,000 of these lines have been installed since 1966, so the rate of expansion has been high in percentage terms. However, it will need to be greatly accelerated if expected requirements are to be met.

The ratio of telephones to inhabitants is calculated at one to three in fully developed urban societies, which means that Lebanon needs more than 500,000 new lines immediately, and two million lines by the end of the century when the population is expected to reach six million.

The Ministry of Posts, Telephones and Telecommunications is installing 60,000 new lines and 25 new exchanges over the next two to three years, and a further 200,000 new lines and 41 exchanges have been authorized by Parliament. This will involve replacing the present six-figure dialling system with a larger one, as well as modernization of equipment to cope with a new area code system. Mr Antoine Franjeh, the Minister of Posts, Telephones and Telecommunications, says the present plans are inadequate and should be expanded by a further 200,000 lines.

In contrast with the telephone system's problems, Lebanon's telex communications are not overloaded and calls are connected promptly to most countries. There are still fewer than 1,500 subscribers in a system with a further 2,500 circuits are to

be installed over the next five years. Twenty-four telex circuits occupy the same space as one telephone call, so the technical problems of expansion are very much easier.

One suggestion for accelerating Lebanon's telecommunications development is participation in Arab regional efforts, including the project for an Arab regional satellite which is to be considered at the meeting of the Arab Telecommunications Union in Tunis this month. This could be launched early in 1978 and would

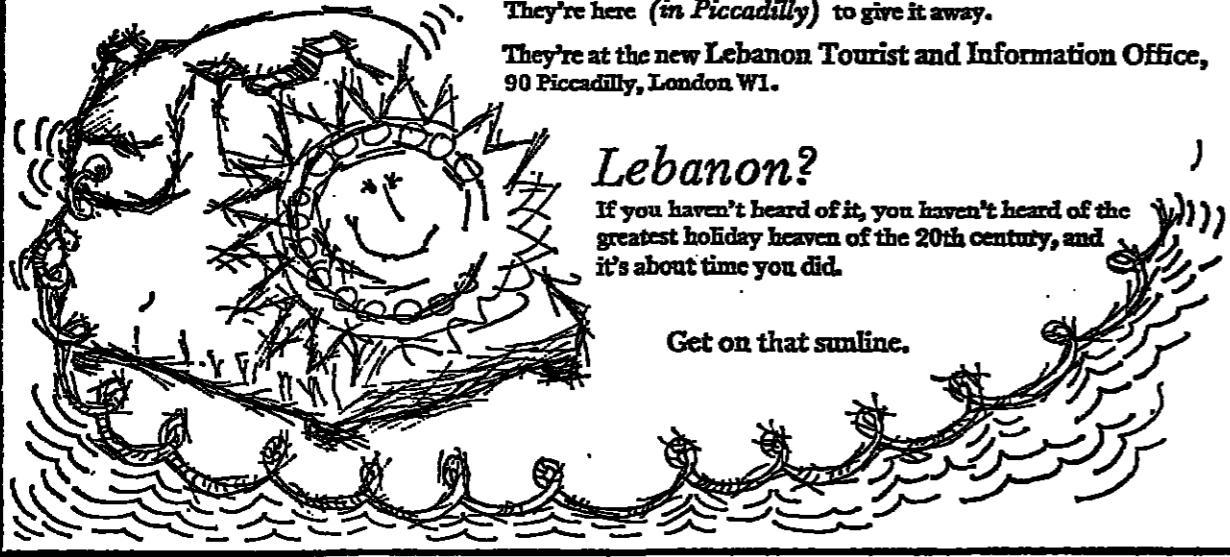
orbit at a height of 37 in a stationary position the Arab countries. A satellite covering Le Syria and part of Jordan also under discussion. Since shortage of has been a major factor in delaying Lebanon's expansion of telecommunications, and since a number of other Arab countries capital which they are to invest produce regional cooperation a logical way for the to maintain its reputation of the Middle East.

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Women invade all work sectors previously restricted to men

by Myra Mirshak
Daily Star,
Beirut

At 8.30 every morning a young woman steps briskly out of her car and enters a modern concrete and glass building, headquarters of the Middle East's leading construction company, CAT. In her office four secretaries are waiting to begin the day's work.

She is Myra Boustany, (left) one of the new liberated breed of business women in Lebanon, heading big business in the country.

Does this sound unusual? Considering the past and the rapid change in the woman's role it is. For generations a woman's place in the Arab world has been not only in the home, but mainly in a corner of it, the kitchen. Just 30 years ago a woman in business was considered a most unusual phenomenon, an incomprehensible feat to be ridiculed by men.

The situation has changed rapidly. There are scores of thousands of women in all spheres of activity and the professions in Lebanon today. There are doctors, engineers, pharmacists, lawyers, writers, journalists and hordes of teachers, secretaries and salesgirls.

They are opening dress shops, building and managing hotels, owning and running modern farms, even venturing into the iron and steel industry. They have invaded increasingly all kinds of work hitherto restricted to men.

The explanation for this is threefold. First, there has been the universal women's awakening and liberation, and Lebanon was not left out.

In the second place, Lebanese fathers and husbands have encouraged and stood by their women's changing role in life. Third, Lebanon is the only country in the Arab Middle East where free economy, free enterprise and banking secrecy exist.

The role of women in big

business in Lebanon is thus those in the West where a woman has developed through years of experience. This is Myra Boustany, manager of one of Lebanon's most luxurious hotels; and Charlotte Essely, who deals in import and export of Lebanese-made goods, mainly textiles.

Myra Boustany, mother of two children, is the youngest business woman in Lebanon. She inherited CAT from her father, Emile Boustany, an exceptional politician and member of Parliament, killed in the crash of his private aircraft.

Mrs Boustany was asked to replace her father in Parliament, and did so for a year as the first Lebanese woman in the Chamber of Deputies. She and her mother, Laura Boustany, had to decide whether to sell the immense company and live in comfort or keep it and struggle on in the business. Thousands of people would have been left jobless, and for this reason these two women decided to take on the challenge of running this vast company.

"The difficulties facing a woman in business are similar to those in any job. Men are not, never have been, a problem. On the contrary, they're an asset. I cherish I don't believe in women's liberation because every woman is free to do as she pleases. Women are highly respected in the Middle East by men.

"The main difficulties I'd say are having to simultaneously run a home and keep your social life going after a long day's work. This can sometimes be overwhelming. The key to success in all domains is proper organization."

She says her children come first in her life. "Even if I'm in the middle of a speech or conference, my secretaries have strict instructions to interrupt if there's even a phone call from one of them. Time for them I consider sacred."

Mrs Boustany has been active in business for the past 11 years. She enjoys her work immensely and says she cannot live without it.

"When I first started I was impatient and worried. Now I've become organized, have learnt to channel some work, give responsibility to others, which was a very difficult step." She quoted the Arabic proverb: "One's life ends, but work never ends." She says, "You've got to know just how much you can cope with in one day, and not try to outdo yourself."

She shares the belief with many others that women have great potential in business. "They're more meticulous than men in the sense that they treat their office work like they do their homes. I believe this is more characteristic of women in the East who are not so used to business than

certain detachment towards work has developed through years of experience. This is Nadia el Khourey, a mother of five. At first glance she seems meek, the type of woman who has been overprotected, sheltered. This image is quickly shattered.

For she is a strong, decisive woman, who is vice-president of a bank, high executive of another, director of a contracting firm, chairman of the Hotel Society in the Middle East, owner and manager of the luxurious Middle East Airlines board and chairman of the Byblos cultural committee, among a host of other things.

She is business-like in manner and speaks of sales trends, hotel management, cultural life and banking, though with tenderness of her late husband, her children, her home.

In the business world she is highly respected and treated as an equal by men, though they were rather sceptical when I began," she admits.

Mrs Khourey emphasizes that a woman must help in the development of her country. "Most women have the necessary potential, but what hinders them is lack of courage and mainly absence of financial independence."

She maintains that men should continue to feel superior to women, and that helping them to keep this edge is the smart woman's best tactic.

Charlotte Essely, who still refuses to admit she is a business woman, directs the biggest domestic textile centre (Domtex) in the Middle East.

"I just happen to like this type of work; call it a hobby if you like. My real world is my home and children," she says.

When Mrs Essely started the business 10 years ago, she was heavily criticized by both her family and society. But she had no aim to promote Lebanese textiles, to help the Lebanese to get over the import complex, as she puts it. "At first, my only customers were foreigners. Gradually Lebanese came to buy." Today the Domtex label has prestige.

"With every new season we can actually see evolution in our society, and now I believe that any strong-willed woman can establish herself in business and be successful, regardless of the still existing family and social pressures."

Lebanon really has turned a new page. In every sphere of previously male-dominated activity there are now women working with men, the previously superior breed, and this development is accelerating.



Free press—with occasional censorship

Little standing phenomenon of the Lebanese undoubtedly the newspaper, *Al-Nahar*, proprietor and chief editor Ghassan Twinn, listed a first-class rival possibly the Middle East mirrored most of the free-enterprise of the country. Circulation of thousands never reached by any newspaper in Lebanon and there record revenue. *Al-Nahar* is the importer for its points of view the press must achieve the absolute it so clearly seeks. June of the impotence of the press. Leading politicians were out of office that the press was to prevent their pace in *Al-Nahar*, dependent and critical of which had given any confirmed this and produced advertisements to show a and substantial

reduction in advertising revenues. The presidency naturally denied that any intimidation had taken place and the plan clothes police officer who was reportedly contacting the advertisers did so too. A near parallel to the Lebanese situation in general can be taken from the history of the Egyptian newspaper industry, before nationalization fundamentally changed the scene there. There were two prosperous newspapers, *Al-Ahram* established by the Taha family and its partners (all of Lebanese origin) and *Al-Masri*, the powerful organ of the Wafd Party but made financially independent by Mahmoud Abou Fath, its brilliant proprietor and editor. Around the fringes were the small party newspapers sustaining a precarious existence from party funds, and at least two more which lived by methods that were far from ethical. Then the Amin brothers established *Dar al-Akhdar* whose newspaper, *Al-Akhdar*, and its periodicals quickly rose to a leading position in the Egyptian press. Together the three principal newspapers made it economically impossible for the small fry to live

alongside them. The parallel exists through the possibility that two or three successful Beirut publishing houses such as that of *Al-Nahar* could, by their strength and independence, drive a great part of the Lebanese fringe papers out of existence. The comparison of the cases ends there. Lebanon has not just a handful of small newspapers but about 100. Some of them would continue to exist as journals of the various communities that make up the heterogeneous society of the country. Most of the others live on the bounty of other Arab states and suture the unique and valuable liberty that the Lebanese press enjoys by paying in their columns for the financial benefits they enjoy, so much so that a former President, in answer to a welcome given him by the press syndicate in Beirut, replied: "Welcome gentlemen to Lebanon, your second country."

This glut of newspapers is almost equalled by the number of weeklies and monthlies and has been sustained by a law passed in 1953, at the behest of the syndicate trying to defend the economics of the press, which forbade the issue of any new press

licences. This had the effect of making a commodity of newspapers, with the result that it costs about £10,000 to buy one. As the aggregate circulation in the country is barely 200,000 and the total advertising revenue about £2m, it is obvious that a great many proprietors must rely on sources other than their own to sustain their journals.

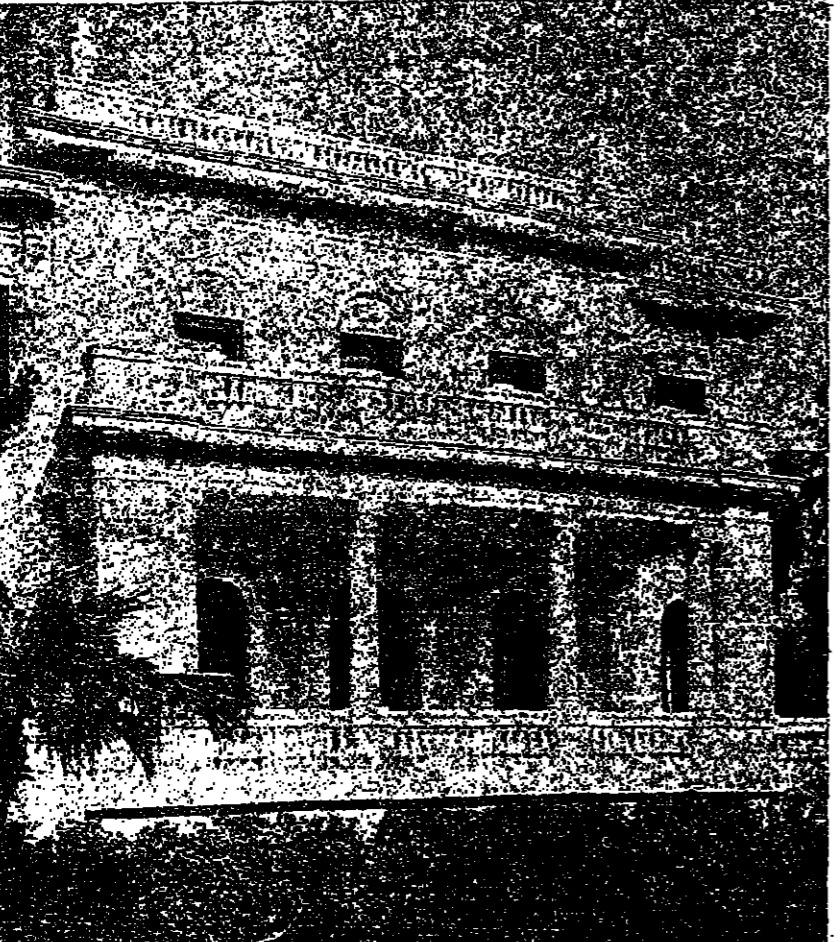
One newspaper which makes a strong bid to rival *Al-Nahar* is presumed to receive money from Egypt but the strength of *Al-Anwar* comes as much from the strong Nasserist and pro-Egyptian sentiment in the country. The politically-conscious Lebanese are so quick to recognize a journal committed to the country giving it financial backing that the newspaper quickly loses its readers and this greatly minimizes the harm the system might cause.

Some proprietors keep their valuable licences up for sale by publishing once a week or month, or even once every six months, in order to conform to the 1953 law and, except for two or three, their publications have tiny circulations. An obvious solution to this slight stain on the press would be for the Government to insist that anyone who possessed or bought a licence for a daily paper should publish daily.

By contrast, the strength of the Lebanese press rests on the individualism of the people and, except for some small minorities, their total faith in a free-enterprise economy. The degree of censorship imposed by law is minimal and to that extent the newspapers and periodicals of the country are essential to the entire Arab world in which they circulate almost as widely as those of Egypt. Censorship is absent in a state of emergency or of martial law, and otherwise is applied to a few proscribed subjects such as harm to public morals (which is liberally interpreted) or abuse of another head of state. Even then the punishment inflicted by the Beirut appeal court cannot go beyond a brief suspension of the paper or, in extreme cases, a brief term of imprisonment for the editor, and most good editors are willing to submit to this if they consider it necessary to publish. It is perhaps true to say that the Lebanese express a wider range of political and economic opinion than can be found in most countries. Even the subsidized press contributes to this variety.

The weekly and monthly periodicals, some of which are excellently illustrated in colour, and specialized magazines such as those dealing with art and literature, circulate widely inside the country and the Arab world, and the facts that the educated population is trilingual in Arabic, French and English, and that there is a large number of resident foreigners and tourists, give importance to the foreign language press.

Periodicals such as the political weekly *Hannaness*, and the entertaining *Revue du Liban*, in French, are widely read and well supported by advertisers. *L'Orient*, now amalgamated with *Le Jour*, has always been a highly-respected French-language daily and *The Daily Star*, partner of the Arab daily *Al-Hayat*, serves the English-speaking people.



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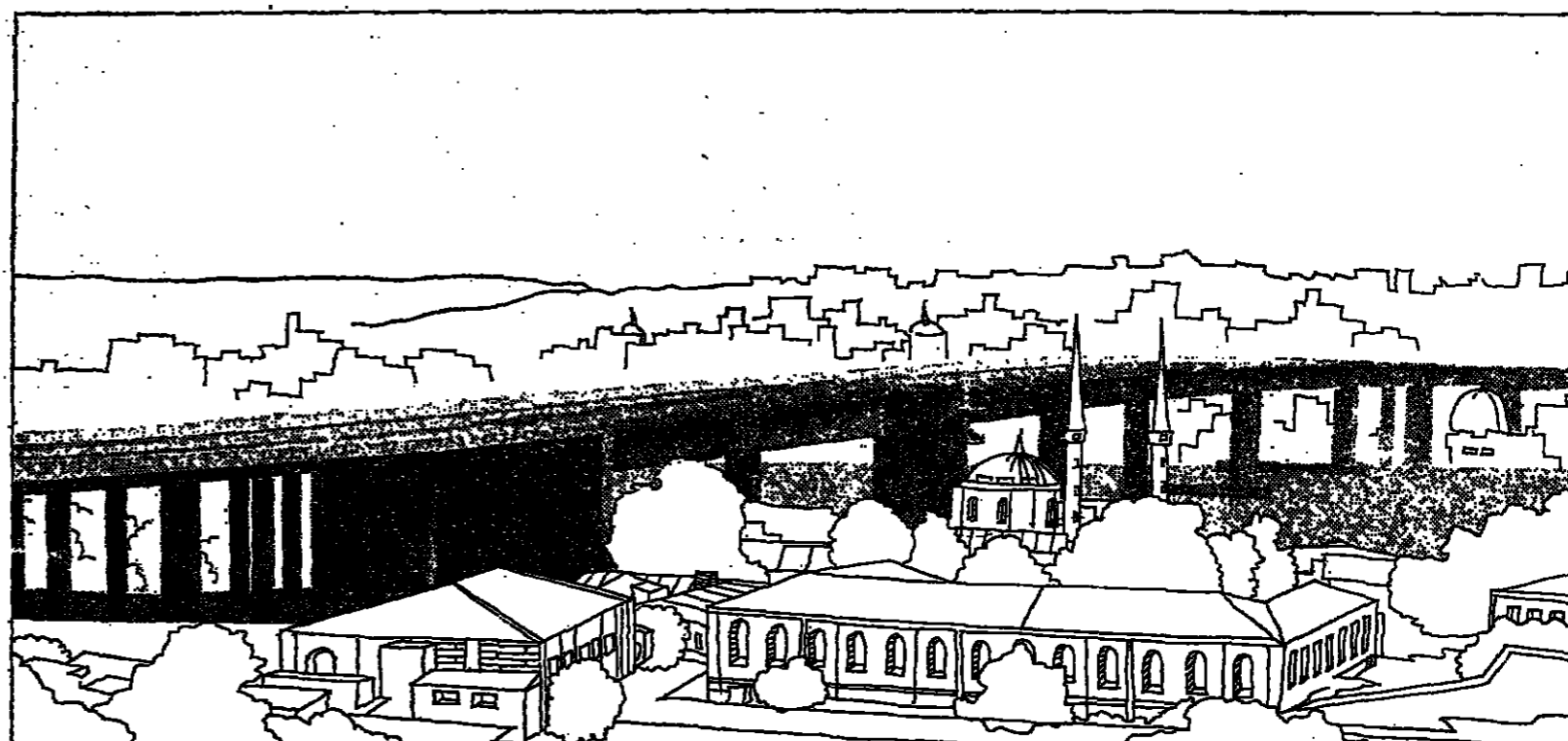
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Old Arab houses have become shadowed pygmies in city of concrete giants

by Margaret Clayton

Beirut is a boom city growing up on popular expectations. It is well placed at the fringe of the Arab oil wealth, and commands the confidence of Arab investors.

In the past three years there has been a great increase of construction in Beirut. New skyscraper blocks are being wedged between the existing ones. Giant cranes swinging overhead threaten to brush against the balconies of neighbouring houses; in many areas it is impossible to use the pavements because of the piles of rubble spilling out on to the roads.

The old Arab houses, washed in pink or yellow, have become shadowed pygmies in a city of concrete giants. Craters buzzing with

activity, for Beirut is now building down as well as up, are a popular spectacle sport for pedestrians, while the whine of drills and the crash of falling masonry have become familiar sounds.

Seen from the air or approaching by boat, Beirut offers a splendid aspect, a kind of Middle Eastern Miami fronting the breakers. At ground level it is easy to see that it has been stitched together in a hurry. Because there is virtually no town planning the skyscrapers rise indiscriminately, often effectively blocking each other's view of the sea. The land is available, at a price, and where there is no virgin land there still remain thousands of older houses, even in the city centre, to be demolished and replaced by new buildings.

Though the building boom, now in its third year, was initially started because of other factors, it has been impetus by the fantastic increases in oil revenue of the neighbouring Arab countries. Beirut, the banking centre of the Arab world and traditionally the meeting point between East and West, now sees the possibility of attracting a great deal of this money, whether in transit or invested in the country. It is busy with a self-improvement programme in many sectors—doubling its banking facilities, expanding its tourist sector, enlarging its tourist waterfront of Ain Mreisse, caught between two sections of Beirut's hotel-studded cornice, is scheduled for intensive development. A young artist has just commemorated its passing with an exhibition entitled "Farewell to Ain Mreisse".

The most important factor in the Beirut property boom has been the flight from money. Land prices began to rise in 1971, and by the next year, when hundreds of Lebanese emigrants, expelled or made unwelcome in African states, began to return to their homeland, the demand for land and property became acute. "Many of these people, who went out as ordinary traders, are returning almost millionaires," one wealthy Beirut hotel and property owner said. "They are willing to pay much more than the local Lebanese, and have pushed prices sky-high."

It is estimated that returning emigrants account for nearly 50 per cent of the boom. Syrian speculators make up another 15 or 20 per cent; rich Gulf Arabs most of the rest.

Most of the really big money is not being spent in Lebanon but is going elsewhere. For the moment the Gulf sheikhs and business magnates prefer to invest their money in the capitals of Western Europe or in international playgrounds such as the Canaries and the Balearics, just as most of them still prefer to bank in Europe.

"It is what you might call the second division investment," one American consultant said. "In Beirut he feels at home, there is no language problem and no awkward

questions asked about where the money comes from." Certainly much of the money now flowing into Beirut derives from oil, the property of Egyptians, Syrians, Palestinians and others who may have made the bulk of it as intermediaries in Gulf business deals.

Saudi and Kuwait money has been responsible, however, for some of the new towering hotels and office blocks. The multi-storied Holiday Inn complex, completed last year at a cost of £1.65m and already valued at £1.135m, was built largely with Kuwait money. "I don't think anyone else could have put up the sort of money needed for this project," a Beirut oil expert said. "The Lebanese are not allowed to buy more than 6,000 sq metres in the city centres, 10,000 in the

The area authorities, as Beirut, some diplo-

less. Charges imposed by the Government on the developer are relatively low. He will pay about £1.5m for the licence to build a 10-storey block of flats, and subsequently tax of 11 per cent on the total rent each city centre are multiplying year.

Reuts of flats, reflecting the property boom, have doubled. It is estimated that 700 flats remain empty at Raouché, though all around new blocks continue to rise. The landlords, having let some of their flats at high prices, find it more economical to keep the remainder empty than to reduce prices. No tax is payable on the empty flats. It is possible to pay £6,000 a year for an unfurnished flat in Beirut. Who pays such circles there believe them, luxuriously furnished, ceiling has been r-

Individual travellers make up main tourist business

by Joyce Rackham

"We Lebanese are resilient people—fatalistic too, but nevertheless dynamic." That is how Mounir el Sbeik, director of the Lebanon tourist office, which opened in Piccadilly last month, summed up the national character of his countrymen.

He added: "We recognize that we are rather late coming on the scene here and how difficult things are economically, but we are optimistic about the future."

One reason for this view is that they have no ambitions in the mass tourism field, which has been hit hardest by the slump in foreign travel. The high scheduled air fare, lack of charter facilities, and absence of large cheapish hotels, mean that they must look to individual travellers for their main business. They have been encouraged by a healthy increase this year in the numbers of tourists, as well as foreign business visitors, who often extend their stay for short holidays. Even the number of British shows a small rise this year, contrary to general tendencies elsewhere.

The Lebanese tourist authorities admit, however, that present statistics must be interpreted with some care, for they do not distinguish between foreign tourists or business people, are likely to include others in transit, and those who cross the Syrian frontier and return after a day trip to Damascus.

Even so, the tables make it clear that 18 per cent fewer French, generally top of the list of Europeans, came this year compared with the 1972 figure, a fair comparison as that was a peaceful year. In 1973, local political troubles, which included the April Israel commando raid on Palestinian guerrillas in Beirut, scared off many tourists, especially French, West Germans, Scandinavians and Americans. The British were braver—their numbers dropped 20 per cent less than the French. Next year, say the Lebanese, they will reorganize the system so that statistics will give a more accurate analysis.

Mr Nasser Safieddine, director of overseas offices at the National Tourism Council, says they estimate that visitors from Arab countries contribute about 65 per cent of their current revenue, which represents up to 20 per cent of the national income when ancillary services are included. The number of Arab visitors, which up to 1966 only just equalled those of non-Arabs, has since risen dramatically. They are, it seems, far less influenced by local political upsets than others.

In summer, when the Gulf areas and the deserts become unbearably hot, many bring their families to enjoy the refreshing climate of Lebanon's mountains. Probably about half the richer Gulf Arabs have regard as an important market of the future—"mainly as sunseekers"—can take

charter flights from as little as £100.

At present the cheapest way there for British tourists is by a package deal: Bales Tours list a week in Beirut at a good hotel from £128; a two-centre fortnight, with a week in Cairo or Jordan, costs from £176. Before the Cyprus coup and Turkish invasion plans were far advanced for a joint promotional scheme between the Lebanese and Cypriot tourist organizations and it was hoped to cut the cost of the air journeys considerably.

For archaeologists, Lebanon is rich in treasures—both discovered and still to be dug. Much of the ancient city of Tyre is still hidden beneath the sea. From a helicopter it is possible to get tantalizing glimpses of what lies submerged. Specialized holidays in this sector obviously have a big future. Fairways and Swinford, an agency which runs "Sites and Flowers" tours to many ancient places every spring, reports that its next trip to Lebanon is already fully booked.

The Lebanese have done much to encourage young people to visit their country, and the Youth Tourism Office arranges programmes at reasonable cost: the air fare for those under 26 (students up to 28) is only £41.95 each way. London-Beirut, and a week at a youth hostel costs £6.40. They arrange craft holi-

days, with courses in mosaics, wood carving, silk printing and enamelling, in Mar Challita, a former monastery not far from Beirut. Visitors can also stay a paying guest with Lebanese village families for no more than £2 a day full board.

Hotel development has certainly been checked by the vicissitudes of international politics, although Beirut is well served in all price ranges. Hilton are due to open their 470-room hotel next spring. Notable among comparatively new developments is the beautiful El-Bustan at Beit-Mery, a hillside village about 10 miles from the capital. It is one of the country's best equipped conference centres, and has the added attraction of being near a famous Roman site and some remarkable Byzantine mosaics.

Prices in Beirut compare favourably with London. The luxurious, traditional St George's charges £10-£14 per person; the new Holiday Inn, much pleasanter inside than its multi-storey facade suggests, is about the same.

The more luxurious restaurants and the grander nightclubs compete well with their European counterparts but are expensive. The smaller, genuinely Lebanese restaurants like Sofar and Les Nomades, offer delicious food and a choice of good local wines, for less than you would spend in London.



Young people at a café in Hamra Street, Beirut. The Lebanese have done it encourage young visitors to their country.

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